

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL

DATE: Tuesday, 30th January, 2024

TIME: 1.00 pm – 3.00pm

VENUE: Council Chamber Manchester City Council -
Manchester Town Hall, Mount Street Entrance

AGENDA

1. **Apologies**
2. **Chairs Announcements and Urgent Business**
3. **Declarations of Interest** 1 - 4

To receive declarations of interest in any item for discussion at the meeting. A blank form for declaring interests has been circulated with the agenda; please ensure that this is returned to the Governance & Scrutiny Officer at the start of the meeting.
4. **Minutes of the Meeting of 20th November 2023** 5 - 16

To consider the approval of the minute of the meeting held on 20th November 2023.
5. **2024/25 PCC Budget and PCC Component of the Mayoral Precept (To Follow)**

A report of Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester.

BOLTON	MANCHESTER	ROCHDALE	STOCKPORT	TRAFFORD
BURY	OLDHAM	SALFORD	TAMESIDE	WIGAN

6. Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Revenue and Capital Budget 2024/25 17 - 28

A report of Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester

7. Greater Manchester Police - Force Performance Update (To Follow)

A report to be presented by Chief Superintendent Nicola Spragg.

8. Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service - Mid-Year Performance Report April-October 2023 29 - 88

A report to be presented by Deputy Chief Fire Officer Ben Norman.

For Information

Work Plan and Forward Look 89 - 94

Deputy Mayor Decision Notices in the Period October 2023 - January 2024 95 - 112

For copies of papers and further information on this meeting please refer to the website www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk. Alternatively, contact the following

Governance & Scrutiny Officer: Lee Teasdale

✉ Lee.Teasdale@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk

This agenda was issued on 22nd January 2024 on behalf of Julie Connor, Secretary to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Broadhurst House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU

POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANEL – 30 JANUARY 2024

Declaration of Councillors' Interests in Items Appearing on the Agenda

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Minute Item No. / Agenda Item No.	Nature of Interest	Type of Interest
		Personal / Prejudicial / Disclosable Pecuniary
		Personal / Prejudicial / Disclosable Pecuniary
		Personal / Prejudicial / Disclosable Pecuniary
		Personal / Prejudicial / Disclosable Pecuniary
		Personal / Prejudicial / Disclosable Pecuniary
		Personal / Prejudicial / Disclosable Pecuniary

Please see overleaf for a quick guide to declaring interests at meetings.

QUICK GUIDE TO DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

This is a summary of the rules around declaring interests at meetings. It does not replace the Member's Code of Conduct, the full description can be found in the GMCA's constitution Part 7A.

Your personal interests must be registered on the GMCA's Annual Register within 28 days of your appointment onto a GMCA committee and any changes to these interests must notified within 28 days. Personal interests that should be on the register include:

- Bodies to which you have been appointed by the GMCA
- Your membership of bodies exercising functions of a public nature, including charities, societies, political parties or trade unions.

You are also legally bound to disclose the following information called DISCLOSABLE PERSONAL INTERESTS which includes:

- You, and your partner's business interests (eg employment, trade, profession, contracts, or any company with which you are associated)
- You and your partner's wider financial interests (eg trust funds, investments, and assets including land and property).
- Any sponsorship you receive.

FAILURE TO DISCLOSE THIS INFORMATION IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE

STEP ONE: ESTABLISH WHETHER YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE BUSINESS OF THE AGENDA

If the answer to that question is 'No' – then that is the end of the matter. If the answer is 'Yes' or 'Very Likely' then you must go on to consider if that personal interest can be construed as being a prejudicial interest.

STEP TWO: DETERMINING IF YOUR INTEREST PREJUDICIAL?

A personal interest becomes a prejudicial interest:

- where the well being, or financial position of you, your partner, members of your family, or people with whom you have a close association (people who are more than just an acquaintance) are likely to be affected by the business of the meeting more than it would affect most people in the area.
- the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

FOR A NON PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

YOU MUST

- Notify the governance officer for the meeting as soon as you realise you have an interest
- Inform the meeting that you have a personal interest and the nature of the interest
- Fill in the declarations of interest form

TO NOTE:

FOR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

YOU MUST

- Notify the governance officer for the meeting as soon as you realise you have a prejudicial interest (before or during the meeting)
- Inform the meeting that you have a prejudicial interest and the nature of the interest
- Fill in the declarations of interest form
- Leave the meeting while that item of business is discussed

- You may remain in the room and speak and vote on the matter
- If your interest relates to a body to which the GMCA has appointed you to you only have to inform the meeting of that interest if you speak on the matter.

- Make sure the interest is recorded on your annual register of interests form if it relates to you or your partner's business or financial affairs. If it is not on the Register update it within 28 days of the interest becoming apparent.

YOU MUST NOT:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your disclosable pecuniary interest during the meeting participate further in any discussion of the business,
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting

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Agenda Item 4

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 20 NOVEMBER 2023 IN THE GMCA BOARDROOM, GMCA OFFICES, 56 OXFORD STREET, MANCHESTER

PRESENT:

Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale Council (Chair)
Councillor Luthfur Rahman	Manchester City Council
Councillor Dave Arnott	Oldham Council
Councillor Chris Goodwin	Oldham Council
Councillor Barbara Bentham	Salford Council
Councillor David Lancaster	Salford Council
Councillor Rosemary Barratt	Stockport Council
Councillor Rose Thompson	Trafford Council
Councillor Paula Wakefield	Wigan Council
Majid Hussain	Independent Member
Angela Lawrence	Independent Member

Also in attendance:

Councillor Aalaina Khan	Bolton Council
Kate Green	GM Deputy Mayor
Baroness Bev Hughes	Assistant Deputy Mayor

Officers Present:

Ian Cosh	Chief Finance Officer, GMP
Chief Supt. Steph Parker	GMP
Lee Rawlinson	Chief Resources Officer, GMP
Chief Supt. Collette Rose	GMP
DCC Terry Woods	GMP
DCFO Ben Norman	GMFRS
Sarah Scoales	Head of Service Excellence, GMFRS
AM Jim Willmott	GMFRS
Jeanette Staley	Advisor to Panel & Head of Community Safety, Resilience & Neighbourhoods, Salford CC
Kelly Dane	Greater Manchester Probation Service
Samantha Stabler	Community Safety Lead, Manchester City Council
Dave Byrne	Police & Crime Lead, GMCA

Alison Connelly	Crime & Justice Lead, GMCA
Neil Evans	Director of Police, Crime, Fire & Criminal Justice, GMCA
Lee Teasdale	Senior Governance & Scrutiny Officer, Governance and Scrutiny, GMCA
Gwynne Williams	Deputy Monitoring Officer, GMCA
Steve Wilson	Treasurer, GMCA

PFCP/54/23 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Vice-Chair Councillor Dane Anderton (Wigan), Councillor Rabiya Jiva (Bolton), Councillor Amy Cowen (Bolton), Councillor Richard Gold (Bury), Councillor Tom Morrison (Stockport), Councillor Vimal Choksi (Tameside) and Sandra Stewart (Tameside)

PFCP/55/23 CHAIRS ANNOUCEMENTS & URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair advised the Panel that, together with Vice-Chair Dane Anderton, she had attended the National Police & Crime Chairs Conference 2023 which had been held at the University of Warwick. This had proved to be an interesting exercise, providing insight into work that was taking place in other areas of the country. Further information would be fed back at the Panel’s next informal Steering Group.

Members were reminded that the Bury Fire Training Centre site visit was confirmed for 6th December and itinerary details would be sent soon.

The Deputy Mayor advised that an update on the Baird Review would be taking place at the GMCA meeting on Friday 24th November. This update would immediately be provided to members following the announcement.

Thanks were expressed to Assistant Deputy Mayor Baroness Bev Hughes, as this would be her final Panel meeting – with members noting the advice and support she had provided to the Panel since taking on the role of Deputy Mayor for Policing & Crime in 2017.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Chair's updates be received and noted.
2. That the Panel be sent the Deputy Mayor's update on the Baird Review following the announcement at the GMCA on 24th November.
3. That the Panel sends its best wishes to Baroness Beverly Hughes following her retirement from the GMCA.

PFCP/56/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were received.

PFCP/57/23 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 18TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Members considered the minutes of the previous meeting. Points highlighted included:

- In reference to PFCP 51/23, it was asked that the number of female and ethnic minority firefighters be provided to give further context to the percentages in the paper. It was confirmed that these had now been sent.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2023 be agreed as a true and correct record.

PFCP/58/23 GMFRS – FIRE COVER REVIEW – CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES & OUTCOMES

DCFO Ben Norman presented a paper providing an overview of the Fire Cover Review 2023, the approach to the consultation and the key headlines. It detailed the proposals selected for implementation based on the feedback received during the consultation process. Points highlighted included:

- An additional whole time fire appliance at Manchester Central fire station would be introduced; enhanced rescue station proposals would be implemented at Leigh and Ashton fire stations; all Special Appliance proposals would be implemented; and £340k would be invested into prevention and protection.

- Day crewing arrangements would not be taken forward at Sale or Offerton fire stations and an additional wholetime fire appliance would not be introduced at Moss Side fire station.
- 140 sessions had been held internally on the consultation, and 180 people had been met face to face at consultation events. Over 1100 comments were received regarding the proposals.
- Two petitions, featuring the signatures of just over 2000 residents in regard to the proposals at Sale and Offerton were also received.
- The proposed changes were now being scheduled for implementation following Mayoral approval.
- It was advised that GMFRS was the only Fire & Rescue Service nationally that had managed to increase rather than reduce it's appliance provision.

Comments and Questions

- Members asked a question about some of the feedback received during the consultation process, specifically the comment asking GMFRS to *“seek additional funding to keep communities safe, rather than changing current service levels to deliver within what is currently affordable”*. What measures had been taken to seek that additional funding? It was advised that the Deputy Mayor had previously written to government about funding from a national perspective, asking for increases after a significant period of decreases. Local conversations were also taking place around whether precepting arrangements could allow for growth within the budget.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the the contents of the report and the supporting Consultation Report on the Fire Cover and Special Appliance Reviews found at Appendix A be noted.
2. That Panel supports the implementation of the proposals following the consideration of the consultation feedback.

PFCP/59/23

GMFRS MANCHESTER ARENA INQUIRY UPDATE

AM Jim Willmott introduced a report that provided an update and assurance to the Panel on the progress against the Manchester Arena Inquiry recommendations:

- Monitoring of the recommendations had now moved into the Homeland Security team with the Home Office. This was led by Tom Parr, the Manchester Arena Inquiry Programme Lead. GMFRS would be meeting with this team on 21st November to understand exactly what they required of GMFRS going forward.
- North West Fire Control had recently provided the Deputy Mayor's Executive with an update on the progress against the eight recommendations made to them. Six of these had now been completed, with the remaining two in progress.

Comments and Questions

- The Assistant Deputy Mayor provided assurance to the Panel that immediately following the publication of the Inquiry Report robust governance arrangements had been in place to provide oversight and delivery of the recommendations. The Mayor had established a Mayoral Oversight Group and had now expanded to deliver this oversight as part of business as usual to keep monitoring the continued progress.
- Members asked about the status of other agencies involved in terms of achieving their recommendations. It was advised that with the Home Office team now having taken over a general oversight of the Arena Inquiry, it was expected that in due course reports would become available from other partners such as the North West Ambulance Service.
- It was asked that the lessons learned from the National Fire Chiefs Council Manchester Arena Inquiry Oversight Group be made available to the Panel.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the the contents of the report be noted and that the Panel supports the progress of the work undertaken to date.
2. That the lessons learned from the National Fire Chiefs Council Manchester Arena Inquiry Oversight Group be made available to the Panel.

PFCP/60/23 GMP LOCAL POLICING UPDATE

Chief Superintendent Collette Rose presented a report providing an update on the progress made by GMP against the local policing model.

- ACC Boyle continued to lead on implementing the delivery of the local policing model within Greater Manchester. Which would deliver consistency and clarity across all the districts of the region.
- The following components had now gone live: The new response model; the Force Crime Management Unit; and the District Investigation Teams.
- The new response model had gone live on 4th September 2023, and it was confirmed that performance had been maintained since that date. With 90% of Grade 1 jobs attended within a 15-minute timescale.
- District Investigation Teams had led to a complete change of approach in how crimes were recorded and allocated to staff for investigation. As expected, there was a rise in the number of crimes being investigated during the early stages of the implementation of the model. There had also been a significant increase in the quality of the investigations being undertaken.
- Since launch in March 2023, there remained vacancy rates of around 20% for the neighbourhood policing model. This was somewhat skewed by vacancies in the City of Manchester however, which was still awaiting review.
- The embedding of the local neighbourhood teams was really beginning to have an impact now based on feedback from local councillors and residents.

Comments and Questions

- Members sought more information on the work being undertaken to address the current vacancy rates. It was advised that a monthly governance meeting studied the figures and establishments across all areas. Plans were sought from the relevant district commanders as to when the vacancies would be addressed through reallocating resources accordingly.
- Members expressed concern about levels of turnover in certain areas impeding the ability to fully implement a stable neighbourhood policing model. It was agreed that high turnover was a frustration, but there was a real commitment to delivering teams that wanted to work in neighbourhood policing. The recruitment and workforce development teams were focussing on a model whereby officers could develop through the ranks whilst staying embedded within the local policing model.
- DCC Woods advised that regular consistent updates on the neighbourhood policing review, particularly in terms of vacancy rates, could be brought to Panel Members.
- Reference was made to the £2.4m of funding earmarked for the Safer Streets Fund. It was asked how the monies were actively being spent in each area covered by the

Fund. The Deputy Mayor advised that an information sheet confirming the projects funded could be sent on to the Panel.

- The Chair closed the item by expressing to the Panel the importance of spreading the message to neighbourhoods about the importance of reporting crime in the appropriate way at all opportunities.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the contents of the report be noted.
2. That a regular update on the neighbourhood policing model be built into the Panel's work programme.
3. That further information on the use of Safer Streets Fund monies be fed back to the Panel.

PFCP 61/23 POLICE & CRIME PLAN – PRIORITY 3 REPORT & PERFORMANCE SCORECARD YEAR 2 UPDATE

Neil Evans (Director of Police, Crime, Fire & Criminal Justice, GMCA) introduced a Year 2 progress update on the work to support Priority 3 of the Police and Crime Plan 2022 – 25 (Strengthening Communities and Places). Points highlighted included:

- There had been a reduction in recorded crime in neighbourhoods (down by 11.5%). Including a 25% decrease in recorded residential burglaries.
- However, there had been an increase seen in numbers of thefts from a person, rising by 17%. This reiterates the importance of recording crime, as the police had made some significant arrests on this front, such as recovering stolen mobile phones.
- There was a continued focus on prevention, including operations on the region's transport network.
- Roads policing was referenced, with new community roadwatch schemes in place, and the impending launch of the Vision Zero strategy.
- There had been an increase by 9000 incidents of anti-social behaviour over the last 18-month period. This was an area of concern being addressed. The Deputy Mayor attended Force Performance Update meetings each month and was reassured by the plans GMP had in place around crime categories where increases were seen.

- Despite increases in performance at GMP. Surveys undertaken indicated that confidence in the police remained fairly static. Given the very high performance in call response rate now being seen, it was clear that work needed to be done on public perception.
- Reference was made to the increases in retail crime that had been a national concern lately. A partnership working approach to this issue had been reinvigorated, with a number of major and smaller retailers involved in a Retail Crime Delivery Group.

Comments and Questions

- Members made reference to retail crime. Noting that a lack of operational cctv around premises was often hindering police efforts to identify perpetrators. It was advised that functions were available to upload cctv footage quickly to the police, but it was appreciated that many smaller premises did not have the ability to do this. This was seen as a priority and partnership work was taking place around it.
- Members made reference to local reporting app tools, funded by local businesses to link them up to the police on repeat offenders. Retail crime was impacting small local businesses quite significantly, not only in terms of cost, but also in terms of mental health impacts. It was agreed that retail crime was often perceived as a 'victimless crime' when it clearly was not, and that these perceptions needed to be tackled.
- Members highlighted the continued low rate of black and minority ethnic officers serving at GMP. This was acknowledged and remained an area of concern for the Deputy Mayor and Chief Constable, and it was agreed that an appropriately diverse range of officers was vital for building trust and confidence in communities. GMP were one of few forces in the country to publish their stats and plans around this as it sought to be fully transparent about the problems faced.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the contents of the report be noted.

Alison Connelly (Crime & Justice Lead, GMCA) & Kelly Dale (Greater Manchester Probation Service) presented a report that provided the Panel with the Manchester Prisons & Probation (HMPPS) Reducing Reoffending Plan.

- Pressures within the criminal justice system remained particularly acute, and headcount issues in the prison service had meant the instigation of Operation Safeguard making use of police station prison cells. The regional probation director Chris Edwards had written to partners about some of the probation related aspects that were being most affected, the Criminal Justice Board has set up a task group, and the Deputy Mayor would be holding a roundtable to consider a number of factors around the flow of stock and demand within the criminal justice system.
- The development of Greater Manchester Rehabilitative Services was highlighted. This was a unique proposition that had been made possible on the back of justice devolution work. This was enabling a creative approach to rehabilitative services, with examples highlighted within the report.
- The Reducing Reoffending Plan was a three-year plan but would be reviewed on a yearly basis. The Plan contained a number of ministerial priorities within it for which HMPPS would be held accountable.
- A specific update was provided, as requested by the Panel, regarding those on probation order who were known to suffer from mental health issues. A Health and Justice Team was in place within probation that had a strong mental health focus. Also in place was an Offender Personality Disorder Team co-commissioned with Health Services – which worked on individual plans with those in need of specialist interventions. The Wellbeing Hubs now in place also provided low level non-clinical support. A number of commissioned services were also available via the Regional Outcome & Innovation Fund, which allowed for a more creative approach to be developed. A GAP analysis was also being undertaken to ensure that any gaps in mental health support services were identified and filled.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Reducing Reoffending Plan for HM Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) in Greater Manchester be noted.
2. That the Progress of Greater Manchester Integrated Rehabilitative Services be noted.

3. That the comments regarding support available to those on probation orders with mental health issues as previously requested by members, be noted.

PFCP 64/23 TACKLING HATE CRIME – BACKWARD & FORWARD LOOK

Dave Byrne (Police & Crime Lead, GMCA), Samantha Stabler (Community Safety Lead, Manchester City Council) and Chief Superintendent Steph Parker (GMP) presented a report providing an overview of the latest work undertaken to tackle hate crime across Greater Manchester.

- Strong partnership working continued to take place across the region. A working group was in place that consisted of both statutory and voluntary members of the community. Independent advice was also frequently sought from groups and communities. This year had seen a focus on increasing the level of strategic oversight of the groups – with a new Strategic Oversight Board now in place. It was hoped that the working group would be able to take a more active role in leading some of the work across the region. Work had also taken place to enhance victims' services around hate crime.
- The last 12 months had seen a reduction in recorded hate crimes. From approximately 12,000 in the previous year, to just over 10,600 in the current year. the biggest increases had been in religious hate crimes, and the biggest reductions in sexual orientation hate crimes.
- There had also been a significant uplift in solved outcomes for hate crimes. From 9.1% in the previous year to 13.8% in the current year.
- In respect of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. Since 7th October 156 antisemitic hate crimes, and 144 Islamophobic hate crimes had been recorded in the region. However, it was known through work with communities that there was a distinct under recording in both areas, and hard work was taking place with these communities to establish more safe spaces for them to report.
- Hundreds of groups in the community had been funded to provide awareness and support, with a particular focus at present on supporting the upcoming Race Equality Week.

Comments and Questions

- Members made reference to hate crimes against women being underreported. Stating that this was often due to women feeling that they will not be believed or let down by the system, and a lack of recourse to funding. Having to relive the experiences was also often deeply traumatic for the women involved, with the current backlog in cases meaning that they may be having to recount the experiences several years down the line.
- Members asked that more information be shared on third party reporting avenues. It was advised that this could be fed back to the Panel.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the report be noted.
2. That more information pertaining to third party reporting avenues be fed back to the Panel.

PFCP 65/23 ORGANISED CRIME ANNUAL UPDATE AND FORWARD LOOK (CHALLENGER, MODERN SLAVERY & TRAFFICKING)

Neil Evans (Director of Police, Crime, Fire & Criminal Justice, GMCA) provided an overview of the Greater Manchester partnership response to serious and organised crime.

- It was noted that quite a lot of the retail crime taking place that was referenced earlier in the meeting was often linked to organised crime stolen goods networks.
- The Four 'P's' within the report (Prepare, Prevent, Pursue & Protect) were highlighted as the four key pillars fundamentally important to the operation of the overall strategy.
- One of the most concerning developments in recent years had been the increase in the exploitation of children to operate within organised crime networks. The report highlighted the prevention work taking place to tackle this.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Panel notes the contents of the report.

PFCP 66/23 FINANCE – PRECEPT PROCESS

GMCA Treasurer Steve Wilson introduced a report explaining the statutory duties required of the Panel in relation to the setting of the police precept.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the statutory duties of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel in relation to the setting of the police precept be noted.
2. That the timetable for the setting of the 2024/25 police precept and requiring a meeting of panel before 31st January 2024 be noted.

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE, FIRE & CRIME PANEL

Date: **30th January 2024**

Subject: **Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Revenue and Capital Budget 2024/25**

Report of: **Mayor of Greater Manchester**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform panel members of the proposed budget for Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) for 2024/25 and the updated medium term financial plan.

The precept proposals for GMFRS for 2024/25 will form part of the Mayoral general budget and precept proposals report to the GMCA on 9th February 2024.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note and comment on:

- The overall budget proposed for GMFRS
- The proposed £5 increase in the level of the Mayoral fire precept to fund cost pressures and investment in front line services including a 52nd fire engine for GM to £81.20 for a Band D property.
- The use of reserves to support the revenue and capital budgets
- The proposed fire service capital programme and proposals for funding
- The medium-term financial position for GMFRS covered by the Mayoral precept

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PROPOSED GREATER MANCHESTER FIRE AND RESCUE REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2024/25

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform panel members of the proposed budget for Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) for 2024/25 and the update medium term financial plan.
- 1.2 The following information provides details supporting the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Revenue and Capital Budgets. The Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to 2026/27 has been updated, based on the 2023/24 baseline updated for pay and price inflation, known cost pressures and agreed savings.
- 1.3 The Chancellor announced the Spending Review in December 2023 which presented a one-year settlement as the final year of the three-year government Spending Review. In relation to Fire and Rescue Services, the announcements covered the following:
- Fire & Rescue services receiving an average 6.5% increase in core spending power
 - Flexibility on council tax precept for stand-alone Fire Services of 3%
 - Services Grant reduction of 84%
 - Fire and Rescue Pensions Grant now within core spending power
- 1.4 The Provisional Local Government Settlement was published in December 2023 and the MTFP has been updated based on this. Final confirmation of the funding position will be confirmed in the Local Government Final Settlement due for late January / early February.
- ### **2. 2024/25 PRECEPT PROPOSALS**
- 2.1 The Mayor of Greater Manchester has proposed, in his report to the Combined Authority Meeting of the 25th January 2024, a £5 (Band D) increase to the GMFRS element of the mayoral precept. The precept increase is required to ensure, given the

significant increase in inflationary pressures on both pay and non-pay budgets, that there is no adverse impact on frontline fire cover in 2024/25

- 2.2 In addition to funding the unavoidable impact of these inflationary cost pressures the proposed increase will also allow additional investment in the service including an additional fire engine for GM and further investment in protection and prevention work. Together with the changes introduced through the 2023 Fire Cover Review (FCR) these changes will increase the number of fire engines across GM from 50 to 52 and allow significant investment in prevention and protection.
- 2.3 The proposed £5 increase for a Band D property will equate to a £3.33 (6 pence per week) increase to £54.14 for a Band A.
- 2.4 Although it is required to set a precept specifying the Band D Charge, by far the majority of properties (82%) in Greater Manchester, will be required to pay less than this amount. The following table outlines the amounts to be paid by each band and the proportion of properties which fall into each band.

2024/25	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Fire Precept	54.14	63.16	72.18	81.20	99.25	117.29	135.34	162.40
Proportion of Properties	44.6%	19.8%	17.7%	9.6%	4.9%	2.1%	1.3%	0.2%

3. GMFRS MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

3.1 The table below presents the budget requirements incorporating pressures and savings from 2023/24 onwards:

Medium Term Financial Plan	Original 2023/24	Revised 2023/24	Proposed Budget 2024/25	Indicative Budget 2025/26	Indicative Budget 2026/27
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Fire Service	115,365	115,365	125,437	132,391	134,095
Pay and price inflation	5,955	5,955	5,005	2,418	2,463
Savings	-712	-712	-1,629	0	0
Cost pressures and variations	4,828	4,828	5,281	-714	0
Cost of service	125,437	125,437	134,094	134,095	136,558
Capital Financing Charges	2,082	2,082	2,259	4,685	5,179
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves	2,637	2,842	0	0	0
Net Service Budget	130,156	130,361	136,353	138,780	141,737
Funded by:					
Localised Business Rates	10,649	10,743	10,743	10,743	10,743
Baseline funding	43,275	43,275	51,281	51,281	51,281
SFA - Services Grant	1,244	1,296	204	0	0
Section 31 - Business rates related	7,567	7,707	7,707	7,707	7,707
Section 31 - Pension related	5,605	5,605	0	0	0
Precept income (at £81.20 Band D)	60,463	60,433	65,364	65,854	65,854
Collection Fund surplus/deficit	531	479	225	225	225
	129,334	129,538	135,524	135,810	135,810
					0
Shortfall	822	823	829	2,970	5,927
Shortfall Funded by:					
Earmarked Reserves	822	822	829	0	0
General Reserves/Precept Increase	0	0	0	2,970	5,927
Use of Earmarked & General Reserves/Precept	822	822	829	2,970	5,927

4. REVENUE BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

Funding

- 4.1 Funding is based on the details from the Provisional Settlement, released in December. The baseline funding from Revenue Support grant and Top-up grant has increased by £2.401m, net of pension funding as described at paragraph 4.2, from the 2023/24 position with a reduction in Services Grant of £1.092m.
- 4.2 The pension grant, previously paid under a separate Section 31 grant, has now been allocated through the Revenue Support Grant as part of the baseline funding. Payment has been added on a flat cash basis as per previous years from 2019/20 to 2023/24.
- 4.3 This represents an increase in total Government funding for the service of just over 2.4% which falls some way short of the pay and non-pay inflation pressures faced by the service.
- 4.4 Localised business rates and Section 31 business rates relief grant are assumed at the same level of income as last year, with information from local authorities not yet available to determine next year's position at this stage. There has also been a change in relation to the compensation for under indexation calculations, for which, we are awaiting clarity from Government.
- 4.5 Precept income has been included at the increased rate of £54.14 per Band A property, equivalent to £1.04 per week (£81.20 per household at Band D equivalent, or £1.56 per week) which ensures frontline fire cover is maintained. The estimated taxbase for 2024/25, i.e. the number of households paying council tax, has seen an increase when compared to levels assumed in 2023/24, however, final taxbase numbers are to be confirmed.
- 4.6 Collection Fund surplus/deficits are to be confirmed by local authorities as soon as the information is available. Early indications show that Business Rates are expected with a small surplus which has been reflected in the draft medium term financial plan.

Pay and Pensions

- 4.7 The original pay inflation in respect of 2023/24 included 7% April to June in relation to the 2022/23 pay award and a further 5% for the remainder of the year for uniformed staff and 4% for non-uniformed staff. Negotiations in respect of uniformed pay concluded in March 2023 with a 5% pay offer. In relation to non-uniformed staff, pay award was agreed at £1,925.
- 4.8 On calculating the 2024/25 pay budget requirements, assumptions have been made of a further 5% pay inflation for uniformed staff and 3% for non-uniformed staff.
- 4.9 As noted at paragraph 4.2, the pensions grant has been included at flat cash within the Revenue Support Grant allocation. Following the 2020 pension valuation, the Home Office has confirmed that the projected increase in the employer contribution rate will be covered in full for 2024/25 by additional grant funding. The methodology uses both actual and forecasted pension costs and takes a four-year average (percentage) which is applied to forecast 2024/25 pension costs. The Home Office have consulted with NFCC on the methodology and have agreed this approach.
- 4.10 The rates for the projected increase in the employer contribution rate have not yet been confirmed, this is expected in January. Therefore, the current MTFP does not include estimates of either the increased contribution or the additional grant, albeit we are assuming a balanced position for 2024/25.

Savings

- 4.11 Following delivery of savings within 2023/24 of £0.788m, further savings of £1.629m have been identified to be delivered in 2024/25. As part of the Fire Cover Review, proposals were put forward and agreed to implement a more flexible and resilient approach for the technical rescue capability operating from enhanced rescue stations. Taking these steps brings savings of £1.179m which are to be reinvested to increase the number of fire engines from 50 to 51. Additionally, savings have been identified as part of a facilities management review of £0.450m.

Pressures

4.12 Budget pressures have been identified as set out below:

- Pay award – budget pressures of £4.433m have been calculated on the basis of a 5% increase for uniformed staff and 3% for non-uniformed staff as noted at paragraph 4.8.
- Price inflation - an estimated 2% inflation has been factored into the medium term financial plan across all general non-staffing expenditure budgets including energy costs, which equates to a £0.572m pressure. The exception is around business rates payable which has been identified and quantified as £0.236 included within the cost pressures.
- In conjunction with partners, control room operations are under review, where projects have been proposed and initiated. Pressures of £0.533m have been identified, in terms of one-off support and ICT upgrade costs £0.416m and on-going pressures of £0.209m arising from control room staff pay inflation and lease costs.
- Corporate Services support from the wider GMCA will see a cost increase, mainly in relation to pay award. This has been estimated at £0.247m.

Investments

4.13 As described at paragraph 4.11, savings have been identified which are to be reinvested to support the implementation of an additional (51st) fire engine to provide improved capacity to respond to emergencies, increased coverage within the city centre of Manchester and enhance ability to save lives and property. This element of the Fire Cover Review is to be funded from the savings with a minor residual pressure of £0.200m.

4.14 Investment is required in Prevention, Protection and Response to enable the Service to proactively respond to the ongoing transformation of the city-region, particularly in and

around central Manchester, where increasing number of high-rise buildings are combining with an ageing infrastructure, increasing the risk of fires spreading and being more difficult to put out. Whilst increasing resilience, the service also seek to improve response times where possible.

4.15 In addition to the investment in prevention and protection, the proposed precept increase will also allow the introduction of a further fire engine as part of the investment into response which would increase the total number of appliances to 52 as per the original plans within the Fire Cover Review which gained support through the public consultation.

4.16 The investments and increase in frontline services enable more prevention, more protection and better response.

5. CAPITAL PROGRAMME

5.1 GMFRS have reviewed capital investment requirements for the Fire estates, Fire ICT schemes and operational vehicles and equipment. As the current approved budgeted ends at 2027/28, estimates to 2032/33 have been included to be agreed in principle. The proposed Capital Programme requirements are set out below.

<u>Revised Capital Programme</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2025/26</u>	<u>2026/27</u>	<u>2027/28</u>	<u>Future Years to 2032/33</u>	<u>Total</u>
Estates	7,807,401	20,561,438	11,702,598	11,220,448	2,236,330	58,582,311	112,110,525
Transport	4,271,798	2,963,952	3,580,000	5,455,000	275,000	7,687,500	24,233,250
ICT	1,101,341	465,392	350,000	150,000	150,000	750,000	2,966,733
Equipment	1,490,256	3,464,500	72,000	305,000	1,978,098	1,278,000	8,587,854
Sustainability	432,364	525,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	375,000	1,557,364
Health & Safety	521,369	0	0	0	0	0	521,369
Waking Watch Relief Fund	2,112,181	429,000	0	0	0	0	2,541,181
Total	17,736,710	28,409,282	15,779,598	17,205,448	4,714,428	68,672,811	152,518,276

5.2 A long-term estates strategy has been formulated, the approved phase 1 of the scheme with plans for new builds, extensions, refurbishments and carbon reduction schemes is

underway with expected completion by 2027/28. Alongside this is the Bury Training and Safety Centre currently underway and due to complete within 2023/24. Phase 2 of the Estates Strategy has been added to with estimates over the period 2028/29 to 2032/33, to align to the proposed extended capital programme timeline.

- 5.3 Alongside the estates strategy is a refresh programme of work to replace and update fitness equipment and enhance the facilities across stations in line with managing contaminants guidance. Projects to support the refresh programme have commenced within the current financial year with the aim to complete during 2024/25.
- 5.4 Transport and Equipment replacement programme budgets are profiled in accordance with expected need and delivery profiles allowing for lead times where supply chains require orders to be placed up to 18 months prior to goods being delivered. The replacement profile of vehicles beyond the current approved capital programme has been included at estimated costs including an allowance for inflation.
- 5.5 Following the successful roll out of the Waking Watch Relief Fund, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has requested further support from GMFRS to assist with the delivery of the Waking Watch Replacement Fund. This is due to come to an end within 2024/25.
- 5.6 The figures will be updated to reflect the quarter 3 2023/24 position once the information is available.

6. BUDGET RISKS

- 6.1 Future budget risks are set out below:
- Future government funding beyond 2024/25 has not been confirmed and is likely to be announced within the next Comprehensive Spending Review.
 - Pay inflation for firefighters and local government employees in excess of the assumptions set out in the report.

- Funding beyond 2024/25 has not yet been confirmed in respect of the pension increases as noted at paragraph 4.9.
- McCloud/Sargeant Remedy – the judgement refers to the Court of Appeal’s ruling that the Government’s 2015 public sector pension reforms unlawfully treated existing public sectors differently based upon members’ age. The implications of the remedy are being determined but are likely to be significant in future years.
- Delivery of sufficient savings to meet the requirements of the medium-term financial strategy, and dependent on availability of resources to deliver a change programme.
- Emergency Services Mobile Communications Project (ESMCP) – a national project to procure and replace the emergency services network has been paused but may create budget pressures in future years.
- Any changes required following the recommendations from the forthcoming Grenfell Phase 2 Inquiry and implications arising from the Fire Safety Act 2021, and the Building Safety Act 2022 not already factored into the budget.
- Any business continuity arrangements that require funding which are not part of the base budget.
- As no capital grants are available to FRSs, future schemes in the capital programme will be funded by a combination of revenue underspends and borrowing. The costs associated with additional borrowing will have to be met from the revenue budget.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 To note and comment on:

- The overall budget proposed for GMFRS

- The proposed £5 increase in the level of the Mayoral fire precept to fund cost pressures and investment in front line services including a 52nd fire engine for GM to £81.20 for a Band D property.
- The use of reserves to support the revenue and capital budgets
- The proposed fire service capital programme and proposals for funding
- The medium-term financial position for GMFRS covered by the Mayoral precept

Greater Manchester Police, Fire & Crime Panel

Date: 30th January 2024

Subject: GMFRS Mid-Year Performance Review – April to September 2023

Report of: DCFO Ben Norman

Report Author: Sarah Scoales, Head of Service Excellence

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This paper presents the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) mid-year performance review. The attached report identifies the progress we have made against the delivery of our current Annual Delivery Plan between April and September 2023.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Members are asked to:

- Note the contents of this paper and the GMFRS Mid-Year Performance report found at Appendix A.

CONTACT OFFICERS:

DCFO Ben Norman – ben.norman@manchesterfire.gov.uk

Sarah Scoales, Head of Service Excellence – scoales@manchesterfire.gov.uk

Equalities Impact, Carbon, and Sustainability Assessment:

N/A

Risk Management

N/A

Legal Considerations

N/A

Financial Consequences - Capital

N/A

Financial Consequences - Revenue

N/A

Number of attachments included in the report:

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

GMFRS Fire Plan 2021-25

Annual Delivery Plan 2023-24

TRACKING/PROCESS		
Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution		Yes/No
EXEMPTION FROM CALL IN		
Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency?		Yes/No
TfGMC	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	
N/A	N/A	

INTRODUCTION

1. The Fire Plan (2021-2025) sets out the direction of travel for GMFRS, setting out a series of commitments, our six priorities, and the outcomes we want to achieve over the next four years, these are:
 - Priority 1 – Provide a fast, safe, and effective response
 - Priority 2 – Help people reduce the risk of fires and other emergencies
 - Priority 3 – Help protect the built environment
 - Priority 4 – Use resources sustainably and deliver the most value
 - Priority 5 – Develop a culture of excellence, equality, and inclusivity
 - Priority 6 – Integrate our services in every locality with those of partner agencies
2. The Annual Delivery Plan (ADP) sets out how GMFRS will meet these six priorities over a 12-month period, through a portfolio of improvement programmes / projects, all of which are governed by the GMFRS Improvement Board and supported by our corporate strategies.
3. The full report, found at Appendix A, covers in detail the progress GMFRS has made against the delivery of our current Annual Delivery Plan during the period April to September 2023.

CURRENT POSITION

4. At the start of the year our work plan comprised of 50 items, but with any plan the ADP portfolio is subject to change as new programmes and projects can be added or removed at any point during the year, or closed when their deliverables are completed. As of the 30th September 2023, there were 53 items in the ADP portfolio and these breakdown into:
 - **18 Priority Improvement Projects (PIP)** – these are the projects identified by SLT as a priority and have different requirement regarding the approach and governance arrangements, with progress on PIPs reported to Improvement Board and Deputy Mayor’s Executive (Fire) meeting.
 - **25 Call-in Projects** – these are projects that have visibility through reporting progress in Directorate Action Plans and via Functional Boards. High-level progress is report to Improvement Board and Deputy Mayor’s Executive (Fire) meeting.
 - **10 Activities** – these are directorate tasks that support the delivery of the commitments set out in the Fire Plan, and likely produce a single output (i.e., a new policy or strategy).

5. Of the above 53 items supporting the delivery across all six priorities – 11 are complete, 28 are making good progress and on track, 8 are experiencing minor delays, 2 are experiencing major delays, 1 is on hold and 3 have not yet started.
6. The below section provides an overview of progress against each of the priorities:

Priority 1 - Provide a fast, safe, and effective response to emergencies

7. Of the 12 projects supporting the delivery of this priority – 4 have been completed, 3 are on track, 3 have minor delays and 2 have not yet started.
 - ✓ GMFRS launched the Marauding Terrorist Attack capability in May 2023 and conducted a series of large scale multi-agency training events.
 - ✓ Our Wildfire Suppression Burns Team is now live and fully operational, and the team has undergone specialist training in Catalonia.
 - ✓ A new Fitness Framework is being developed for operational firefighters to maintain and improve their fitness, alongside planned annual fitness testing.
 - ✗ There have been delays to the work to refresh the gyms that were not included in the original scope, and work is being progressed with finance and the estates governance group to incorporate these.
 - ✗ Some minor delays in relation to the procurement of the equipment for the Managing Contaminants project, but this has not impacted implement and is still on track to complete by the end of Q4.
 - ✗ Average response time was 7 mins 35 seconds, which is slightly adverse to the target of 7 mins 30 seconds. Further analysis to determine root cause and improvement activities are underway.
 - ✗ Attended 3,419 deliberate fires, 7 more than forecast, but 73 less than last year.
 - ✗ Attended 4,237 special service calls, 445 more than last year. Whilst the direction of travel is negative, this partially reflect our increased support at incidents whereby we assist other agencies.

Priority 2 - Help people reduce the risks of fires & other emergencies

8. Of the 7 projects supporting the delivery of this priority – 1 has been completed, 5 are on track, and 1 has major delays.
 - ✓ Virtual reality headsets have been introduced to assist with the delivery of realistic prevention messages to staff and the community.
 - ✓ Good progress continues to be made to deliver the NFCC Staywise Programme.
 - ✓ The Adult Firesetters project (Atlas) is now well underway. This pioneering project has been nominated for a range of awards.

- ✓ Four new Fire Cadet bases have been confirmed and the programme will commence at the end of October 2023.
- ✓ 15,489 Home Fire Safety Assessments delivered to high-risk homes across Greater Manchester.
- ✗ The Prevention Messaging project closure has been delayed due to undertaking a 'Day of Action' in August and will now close in Q3 23/24.
- ✗ Sadly there have been 10 fire related fatalities and 77 injuries as a result of fire.

Priority 3 - Help protect the built environment

9. Of the 7 projects supporting the delivery of this priority – 4 have been completed, 1 is on track, 1 has minor delays, and 1 is on-hold.

- ✓ The Built Environment project implementing recommendations from Grenfell Tower and The Cube, was successfully completed, and further activities are now on-hold until the publication of the Phase 2 report.
- ✓ The Business Engagement Strategy has been launched.
- ✓ Successfully developed and agreed a Supported Housing Memorandum of Understanding to ensure a consistent and effective approach to managing fire safety responsibilities.
- ✓ Suitable resources now in place to deliver requirements of the Building Safety Act and Fire Safety Regulations.
- ✓ 3,542 businesses have received advice
- ✗ Limited progress is being made on the Built Safety Action and Fire Safety Regulations project due to the lack of information from the Building Safety Regulator, which is currently a national issue.
- ✗ 902 audits completed, whilst this is currently under our delivery target the direction of travel is positive and is a key area of focus.

Priority 4 - Use resources sustainably and deliver the most value

10. Of the 8 projects supporting the delivery of this priority – 6 are on track, and 2 have minor delays.

- ✓ The multi-year Estates Programme is progressing well with planning consent approved for Blackley and Whitefield fire stations.
- ✓ Littleborough Fire Station refit is almost completed with operational crews expected to reoccupy the station by November.
- ✓ GMFRS awarded the Green Apple Environment Award for 2023 in the 'environmental best practice' category.

- ✓ 12 new fire engines were received into the Service representing £3.5million investment in our fleet.
- ✗ Delays to the Intranet Project experienced delays due to the procurement process, but the project has now been rescoped and the contract awarded.

Priority 5 - Develop a culture of excellence, equality, and inclusivity

11. Of the 13 projects supporting the delivery of this priority – 2 have been completed, 9 are on track, 1 has minor delays, and 1 has major delays.

- ✓ Culture remains central to all Service activities, with the Culture First Board expanding its terms of reference to continue to support our cultural journey.
- ✓ Dashboard developed to capture positive and negative feedback from staff to assist in responding effectively.
- ✓ Core Code of Ethics continues to be embedded across the Service
- ✓ GMFRS hosted the successful British Firefighter Challenge 2023.
- ✓ Rolled out the new Promotion Pathway framework.
- ✓ Marginal improvement on the overall female workforce percentage now at 7.22%
- ✗ Delays experienced with the Planning, Performance & Projects Digital Solution to ensure effective engagement with key stakeholders in the development of requirements specifications, which will inform the final business case
- ✗ Staff absence levels still remains over target at 6.14%
- ✗ Marginal decrease of 0.13% to overall proportion of staff from ethnic minority group now at 6.06%

Priority 6 - Integrate our services in every locality with those of partner agencies

12. Of the 6 projects supporting the delivery of this priority – 4 are on track, 1 has minor delays, and 1 has not yet started.

- ✓ Implementation of the new Place Based Plans has commenced.
- ✓ Work is ongoing to diversify and expand our social media platforms.
- ✓ GMFRS supporting the development of the Violence Reduction Unit Strategy and work plan for Programme Challenger.
- ✓ The Blue Light Collaboration Portal is now live and provides a platform to share good practice, lessons learned and future ideas.
- ✗ No project delays this period.

Evaluation

13. Following the introduction of the Evaluation Framework work has been ongoing to effectively implement this and embed across the Service. All ADP projects have an evaluation plan to ensure that we can understand the outcomes and impacts of the activities delivered.
14. To further support this an Evaluation Portal has been developed and consists of an evaluation register providing an 'at a glance' view of all activities, a library of supporting information and materials, and a recommendations log that captures all the evaluation findings to enable progress to be effectively tracked.
15. During the first half of the year four key evaluations were delivered, these were:
 - ✓ The Atlas Project
 - ✓ Evaluation of MTA Training
 - ✓ Integrated Place Based Working Maturity Assessment
 - ✓ Framework for Operational Equipment and Technical Team

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS)

16. GMFRS was first inspected by the HMICFRS in 2019 and subsequently in 2021. The outcomes from the 2021 inspection can be found on page 40 of the report.
17. An Improvement Action Plan was developed in response to the inspection findings. The action plan not only included the 16 identified Areas for Improvement, but also those areas the inspection had commented where the Service could be better, all of which have been completed and formally closed.
18. Work has been ongoing internally to prepare for the next inspection, which commenced in September 2023. As part of this process, we provide a comprehensive range of documents, data, and information for the HMICFRS to review. This included the production of a Self-Assessment of our Service all of which will inform the HMICFRS where we are on our improvement journey and the progress made since our last inspection.
19. Significant progress has been made since the last inspection and we look forward to welcoming HMICFRS into the Service to assess our progress. We anticipate our inspection report will be published in February 2024.

Fire Standards

20. The Fire Standards Board has been set up to oversee the identification, organisation, development, and maintenance of professional Standards for fire and rescue services in England. Each Standard identifies the desired outcome, what Services must have in place to achieve that outcome and the expected benefits of meeting the Standard.
21. There have been sixteen Fire Standards released to-date, the most recent were Fire Control and Communication & Engagement standards both released in March 2023. Each standard sets out a range of compliance criteria requirements, with a total of 214 standard requirements across the sixteen released.
22. Assurance activities continue across a range of directorates to assess our compliance against 15 Standards, with the exception of Fire Control which is being progressed by North West Fire Control. Currently our evidence identifies that we are fully or partially compliant against 196 (99%) of the 199 requirements across these 15 standards.

NEXT STEPS

23. This report will be circulated internally via the staff newsletter and published on the GMFRS external website.



**GREATER
MANCHESTER**
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



MID YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT

April 2023 – September 2023

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Introduction

Welcome to Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service's (GMFRS) mid-year performance report, which provides an insight into our progress in delivering the Annual Delivery Plan from April to September 2023.

I am pleased to reflect on the progress of GMFRS over the past six months. The Service has continued to focus on activities to achieve our goals and fulfil our mission. During this period we have seen a reduction in overall incidents, particularly fires, and a significant decrease in deliberate fires.

Our Home Fire Safety Assessments have seen a substantial increase in visits and we have responded to emerging issues of accidental dwelling fires involving electric bikes, providing the public with guidance on safe charging practices. In addition, we have successfully delivered a pioneering project that helps rehabilitate adult firesetters.

Culture remains a key focus for the Service and we continue to build on the success of our Culture First Board and Sounding Panel ensuring issues and staff feedback are at the forefront of our discussions and improvements.

I am proud of the hard work and dedication of all our teams, and we remain fully committed to providing the highest level of service to the communities of Greater Manchester.



“I am proud of the hard work and dedication of all our teams, and we remain fully committed to providing the highest level of service to the communities of Greater Manchester.”

DCFO Ben Norman

Director of Strategy, Planning & Workforce

Executive Summary

The first six months of the year have brought about a reduction in overall incidents, largely due to fewer fires. Deliberate primary and secondary fires, in particular, have decreased markedly, likely due to adverse weather conditions, with July 2023 being the wettest in over a decade. There has been an emerging theme concerning Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs) involving e-bikes/e-scooters. As a result, we launched local campaigns and guidance to educate the public on how to safely charge this equipment.

Following extensive consultation with staff, public and political leaders we finalised the recommendations to be implemented from our Fire Cover Review and Special Appliance Review.

Efforts towards better serving our Greater Manchester community have included increasing the delivery of Home Fire Safety Assessments (HFSA) to those who are at the highest risk of fire. The HFSA process has been extended to allow crews to conduct post-incident follow-ups on our incident recording system, building on the success of last year. We have also successfully introduced 'Atlas' our pioneering Adult Firesetters project in partnership with Greater Manchester Probation Service, which rehabilitates adults convicted of fire-setting behaviours and has been nominated for three awards.

Culture continues to be a key focus for the Service and the introduction of the Culture First Board and Sounding Panel have brought objectivity and scrutiny to service-wide issues, staff concerns. Moreover the Service ensures transparency through two-way communication channels.

The Service continues to collaborate with partner agencies on a range of activities. In the High Rise Day of Action, operational crews went door-to-door in Bolton, Manchester and Salford, providing safety advice and reassurance to residents, especially in the event of a fire. As a key partner in Operation Vulcan we supported Greater Manchester Police and served a prohibition order on a property that was discovered to be supplying a network of stores with counterfeit goods.

The following sections of this report provide a more in-depth review of the Service's work, achievements and performance.

Our Plans

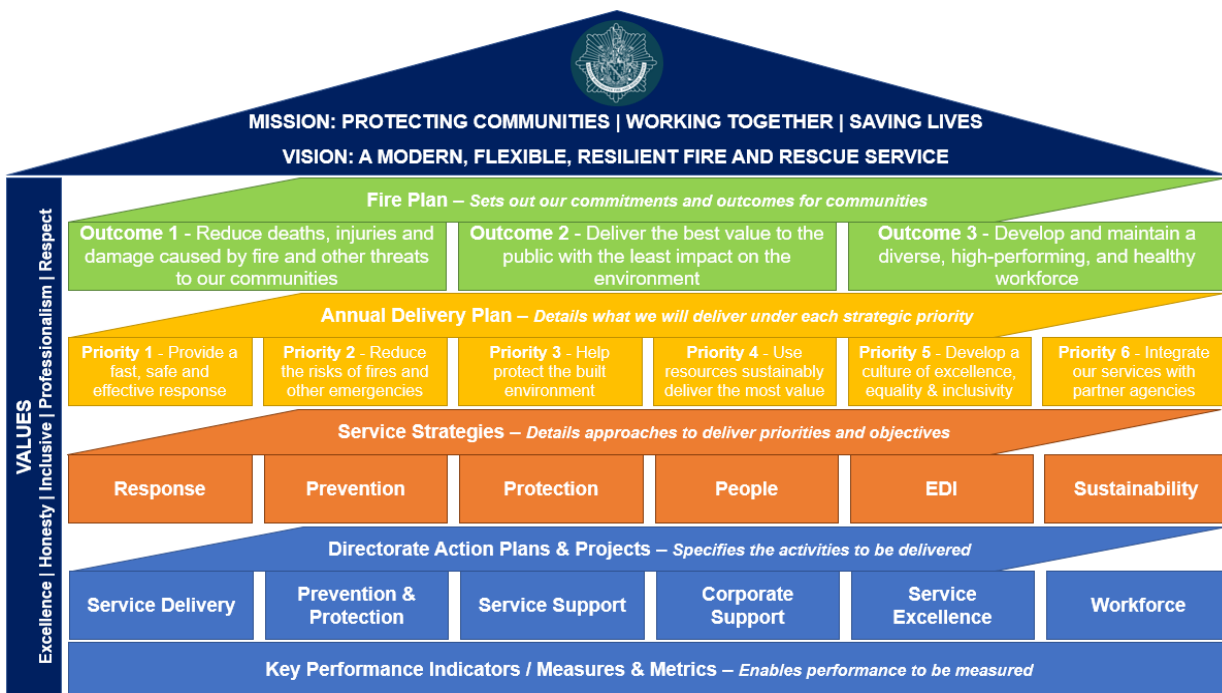
The Fire Plan (2021-2025) sets out the direction of travel for GMFRS, setting out a series of commitments, our six priorities, and the outcomes we want to achieve over the next four years, these are:

1. Provide a fast, safe, and effective response
2. Help people reduce the risk of fires and other emergencies
3. Help protect the built environment
4. Use resources more sustainably and deliver the most value
5. Develop a culture of excellence, quality and inclusivity
6. Integrate our services in every locality with those of partner agencies



The Annual Delivery Plan (ADP) sets out how GMFRS will meet the six priorities in the Fire Plan over each 12-month period, providing a focus for the service in the short term. The ADP is a portfolio of improvement programmes / projects, governed by the GMFRS Improvement Board, supported by our corporate strategies.

The below diagram sets out how all our plans and strategies link together to deliver the Service’s mission and vision, and our animation brings this to life - [GMFRS Animation](#).

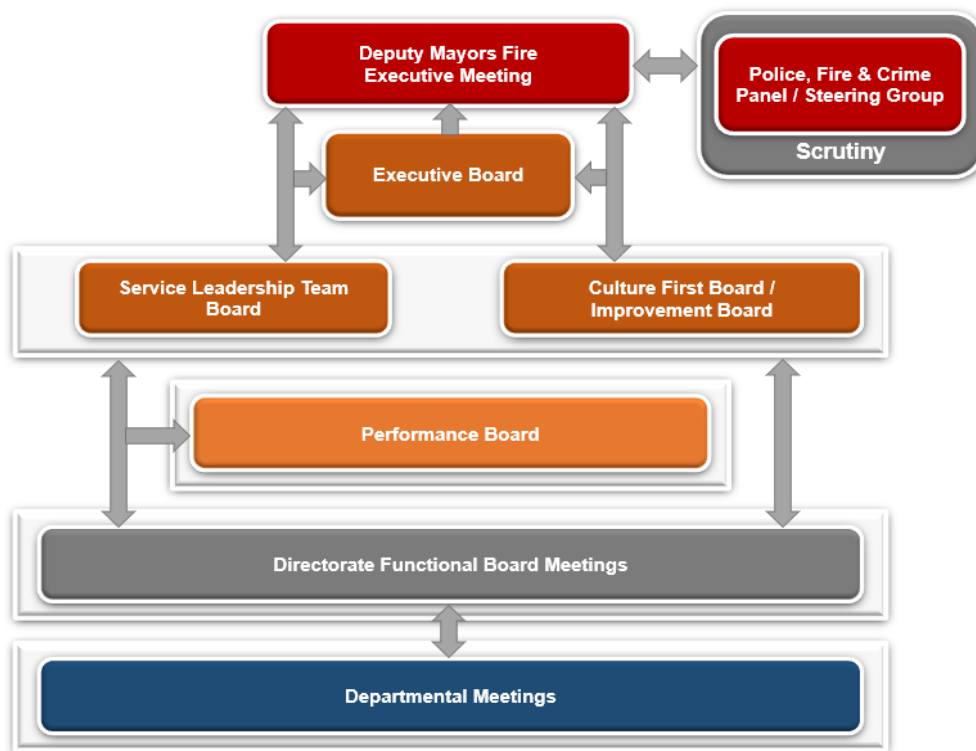


Governance Arrangements

Our governance arrangements ensure that GMFRS carries out its functions in a way that demonstrates accountability, transparency, effectiveness, integrity, and inclusivity.

Good governance supports our ability to effectively deliver our vision and mission and is designed to enable accountability and leadership to be aligned appropriately to support transparent and effective decision-making and reduce bureaucracy. We have a transparent and inclusive governance and meeting framework that promotes consultative and ethical decision making, effective performance management, and scrutiny.

GMFRS Meeting Governance Structure



This governance structure has been in place for a number of years effectively supporting how we 'Run the Service' and 'Change the Service'. More recently we introduced a Culture First Board that is independently co-chaired alongside the Chief Fire Officer. This board focuses on promoting a positive culture within the Service and encourages open communication, feedback, accountability for mistakes, and continuous learning. Our performance is reported through this governance structure, and its effectiveness is assessed by the Deputy Mayor's Executive, which works to shape new strategies and programs. Further, to ensure transparency and accountability, the Police, Fire and Crime Panel scrutinises decisions made by the Executive and requests ongoing updates on work and performance.

GMFRS is halfway through its third ADP of the current Fire Plan, and we are making relatively good progress against our ADP and the ambitious targets/forecasts for 2023/24.

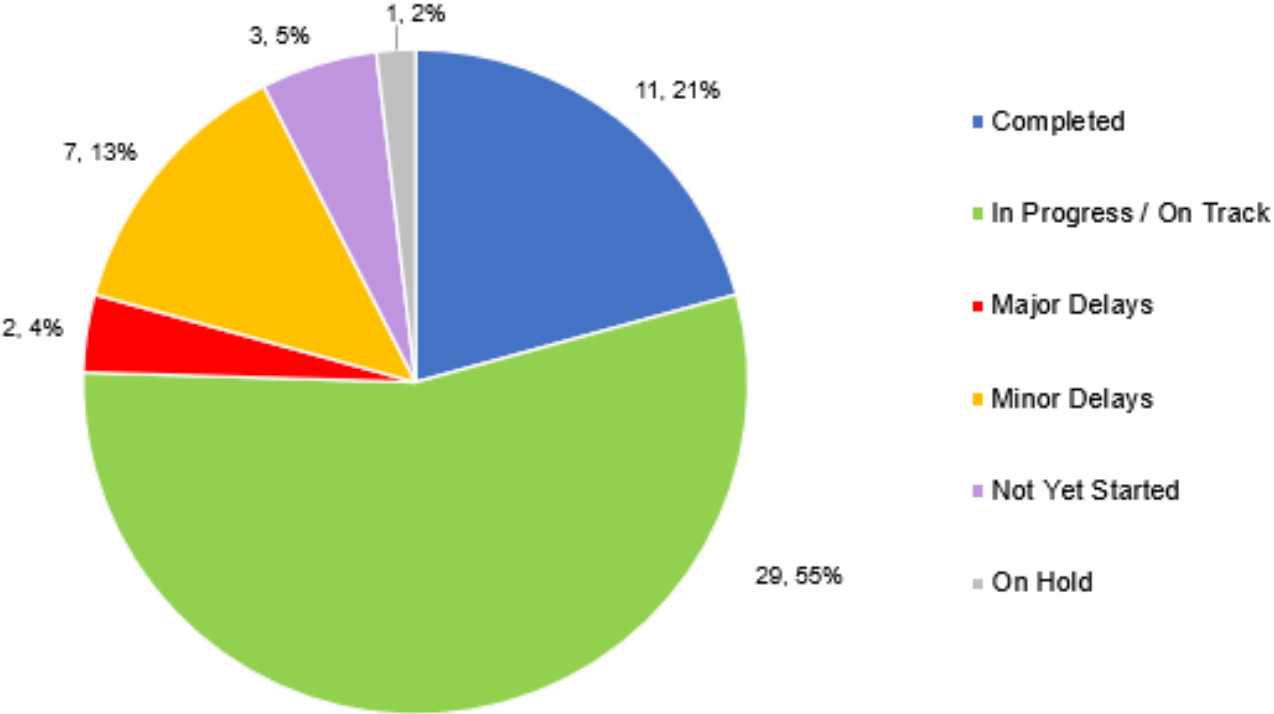
In terms of this year's delivery plan the year commenced with a portfolio of **50** items in total, breakdown into –

- **18 Priority Improvement Projects (PIP)** – these are the projects identified by SLT as a priority. These have different requirements regarding the approach and governance arrangements, with progress on PIPs reported to Improvement Board and Deputy Mayor's Executive (Fire) meeting.
- **25 Call-in Projects** – these are projects that have visibility through reporting progress in Directorate Action Plans and via Directorate Functional Boards. High-level progress is reported to Improvement Board and Deputy Mayor's Executive (Fire) meeting.
- **10 Activities** – these are directorate tasks that support the delivery of the commitments set out in the Fire Plan, and likely produce a single output (i.e., a new policy or strategy).

The composition of the ADP portfolio is fluid. New programmes / projects can be added into the portfolio at any stage of the year, and similarly, programmes / projects can cease if they are no longer viable. In addition, programmes / projects will close at any point throughout the year as and when deliverables are achieved. As of the 30th of September 2023, there were **53** items in the ADP and of these: -

- **11** are complete.
- **29** are making good progress and on track for delivery.
- **7** are experiencing minor delays.
- **2** are experiencing major delays.
- **3** have not yet commenced.
- **1** is on hold.

Portfolio Q2 - Status



The next section provides more detail under each of the six ADP priorities regarding the progress on projects and performance against KPIs.



























Key

In Progress / On Track	Completed
Minor Delays	On Hold
Major Delays	Not Yet Started

The next section provides more detail under each of the six ADP priorities regarding on the progress on projects and performance against KPIs.

Performance Highlights

Of the 14 KPIs presented in this report 57% (8) are green / positive and 43% (6) are red / negative. The trend arrow is based on performance over the last 12 months.

	Key Performance Indicators	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Trend
	Average response time to 'life risk' emergencies	7:20	7:20	7:35	
	% of appliances crewed and available	99.97%	99.73%	99.75%	
	Deliberate Fires	3,938	4,394	3,419	
	Accidental Dwelling Fires	786	709	707	
	Special Service Calls	3,261	3,792	4,327	
	Home Fire Safety Assessments completed	3,609	8,505	15,489	
	Number of rescues from emergencies	973	1,158	1,141	
	Protection Audits completed.	1,210	986	902	
	Businesses provided with advice	5,143	5,379	3,542	
	Number of deaths from fire Number of injuries from fire	6 92	11 79	10 77	
	% of the workforce – male	85.50%	84.97%	82.94%	
	% of the workforce – female	14.50%	15.03%	17.06%	
	% of the workforce - ethnic minority	4.67%	6.19%	6.06%	
	% Absence levels – All Staff	5.33%	5.12%	5.56%	

Priority 1: Provide a fast, safe, and effective response to emergencies

ADP Activity Status

Manchester Arena Inquiry	Fire Control Review	Fitness Framework
Marauding Terrorist Attack (MTA)	NWFC Mobilising System Support	Occupational Health & Safety Management System
Fire Cover Review	Manage Contaminants	Implement Crewing System 'Gartan'
SRoSA	Wildfire Suppression Burns Team	Accident Reporting System

Key achievements:

- ✓ Following the Manchester Arena Inquiry report, GMFRS updated the Inquiry about its progress in implementing four recommendations. GMFRS launched Marauding Terrorist Attack (MTA) capability across Greater Manchester in May 2023 and conducted a series of large scale multi-agency training events.
- ✓ The successful conclusion of the implementation of our new MTA capability, resulted in 'His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's and Fire and Rescue Services' (HMICFRS) closing the cause of concern, issued following our 2021/22 inspection.
- ✓ Our Wildfire Suppression Burns Team is now live and fully operational. The team has undergone specialist training in Catalonia and participated in joint training exercises with Lancashire and Cheshire Fire and Rescue services.
- ✓ A new Fitness Framework is being developed for operational firefighters to maintain and improve their fitness, with annual fitness testing planned to minimise injuries and maintain a sustainable workforce for core activities.
- ✓ The Fire Control Review was successful, resulting in the continuation of working with North West Fire Control (NWFC) until 2033. GMFRS is leading and supporting NWFC to procure a new mobilising system, with governance in place through project boards and steering groups.
- ✓ The Managing Contaminants project has inputted into key training courses, produced draft guidance, and aims to minimise exposure to cancer-causing fire contaminants through effective systems and proper equipment and storage on stations.

- ✓ The Fire Cover Review has been completed successfully and the implementation of its recommendations will commence in 2024. This follows extensive consultation with staff, the public, and political leaders, conveying GMFRS's dedication to leading with authenticity, transparency, and accountability.
- ✓ Following agreement of the recommendations within the Strategic Review of Special Appliances (SRoSA) in May 2023, implementation has now commenced with the governance in place through a programme board and steering groups. The SRoSA programme covers 10 individual projects including the Technical Response Unit (TRU), Water Incident Unit (WIU) and Mass Contamination Unit (MCU).
- ✓ The Accident Reporting System project closed this year after the successful procurement and implementation of a new system. The system records accidents, near misses, and incidents along with equipment and vehicle damage incidents. It enhances performance reporting, identifies risk themes, and allows easy access to performance information across the Service.
- ✓ The Gartan 5.4 crewing system update was implemented in April 2023, ahead of planned improvements over the next 12 months. The project now includes more benefits, such as giving frontline managers more autonomy and removing legacy systems and paper-based administration. All operational staff will utilise one system accessible via mobile technology for roster-related activities

Project delays:

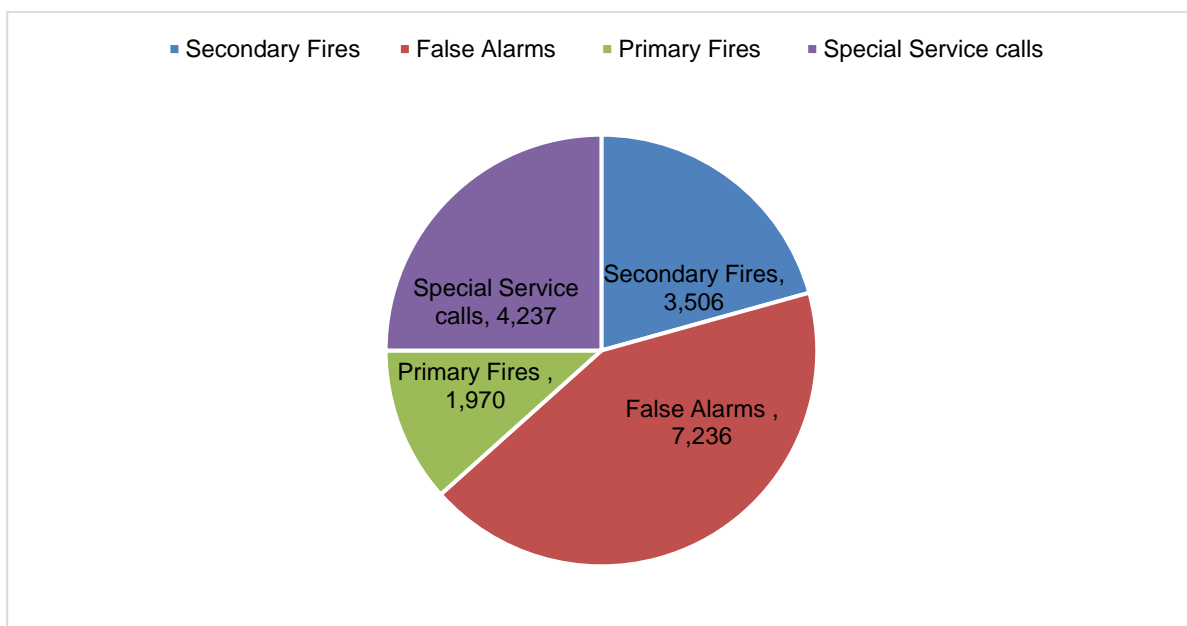
- ✗ Work is underway on 22 of our fire stations gyms to refresh these areas and incorporate new gym equipment to support firefighter's fitness. However, the remaining gyms (16) were not included in the original scope of the project, and these are now likely to delay completion of the project into 2024/25.
- ✗ A slight delay was experienced in the ordering of the equipment for the Managing Contaminants project, in relation to consumables and sinks for installations, however these are still on track for implementation by the end of the fiscal year.
- ✗ Some minor delays have been experienced in the publishing of the Health & Safety Standards for Joint Health & Safety Committees (JHSC) the Occupational Health & Safety Management System project, due to delays in external consultation.



All Incidents

This is the number of incidents that GMFRS attend with one or more fire appliances, and includes fires, special service calls, false alarms and collaborative work undertaken with other emergency services. For example, missing person searches on behalf of the Police and gaining entry incidents at the request of the Ambulance Service. This is not a KPI but provides an overview of the volume and types of incidents attended.

All incidents	Year to Date	2023/2024 Quarter 2	Previous year to Date	2022/2023 Quarter 2
	16979	8021	17055	8847

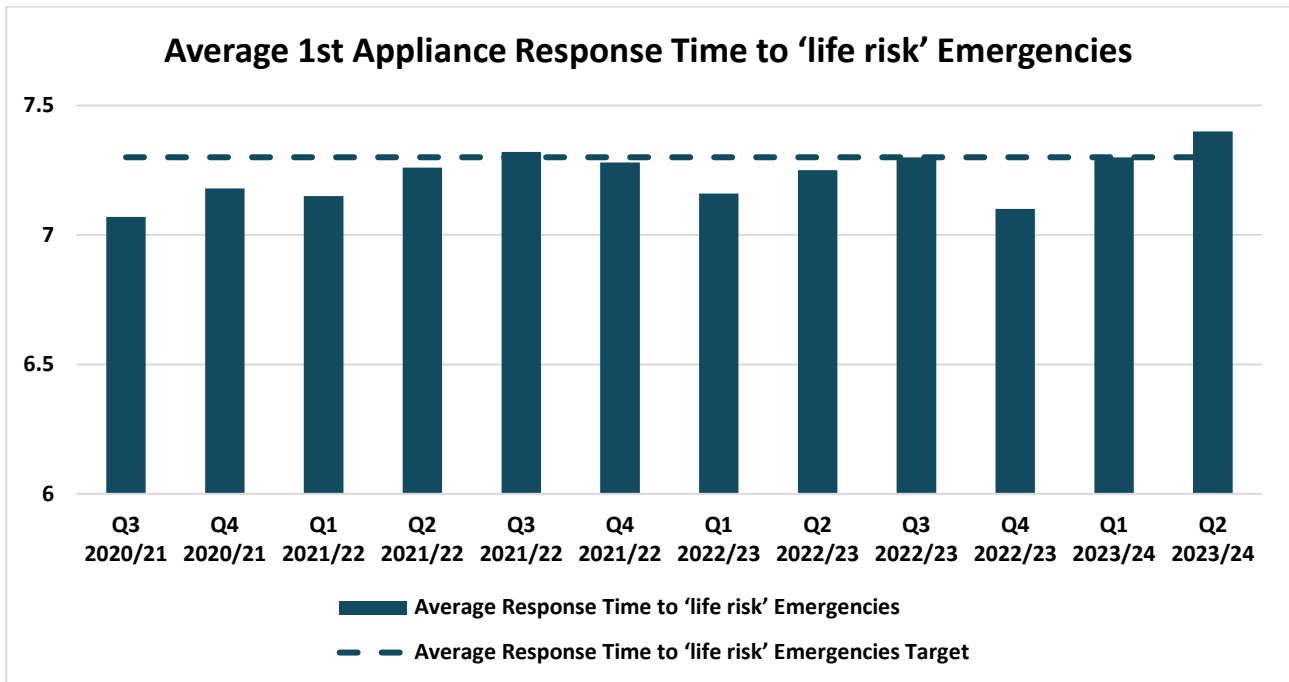


	<p>FALSE ALARM incidents made up 43% of the Service's activity during the first half of 2023/24 and comprised; 70% Fire Alarm due to Apparatus (domestic and non-domestic), 26% Good Intent False Alarm, and 4% Malicious False Alarm.</p>
	<p>SPECIAL SERVICE incidents are made up of a number of different activities. Year to date the top 5 SSC types are; Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) 928 (22%), Effecting entry/exit 865 (20%), No action (not false alarm) 409 (10%), Flooding 303 (7%) and Lift Release 253 (6%).</p>
	<p>SECONDARY FIRE incidents are typically anti-social behaviour fires. These mainly involve loose refuse and/or wheelie bins. During the period 1st April 2023 to 30th September 2023 'Loose refuse' continued to account for the largest proportion of deliberate secondary fires, 1,380 out of 2,725 (51%) and 'Wheelie Bins' accounted for the second highest proportion (266/10%).</p>
	<p>PRIMARY FIRE incidents encompass Deliberate Primary Fires at 694 (35%) and Accidental Dwelling Fires at 36% (707).</p>



Response time to emergencies

Year to date GMFRS 1st appliance average response time to 'life risk' emergency incidents was **7 mins 35 seconds**, which is slightly adverse to the target of 7 mins 30 seconds and 15 seconds slower than the same time last year. Analysis of the data shows average overall response time over the last 12 months is increasing. Further data analysis has been undertaken to identify the root cause and implement improvement activities to address any areas of underperformance.



We measure our performance when responding to incidents using our response standard: ***To respond to all life risk incidents within 10 minutes from the receipt of the emergency call at NWFC on 80% of occasions.***

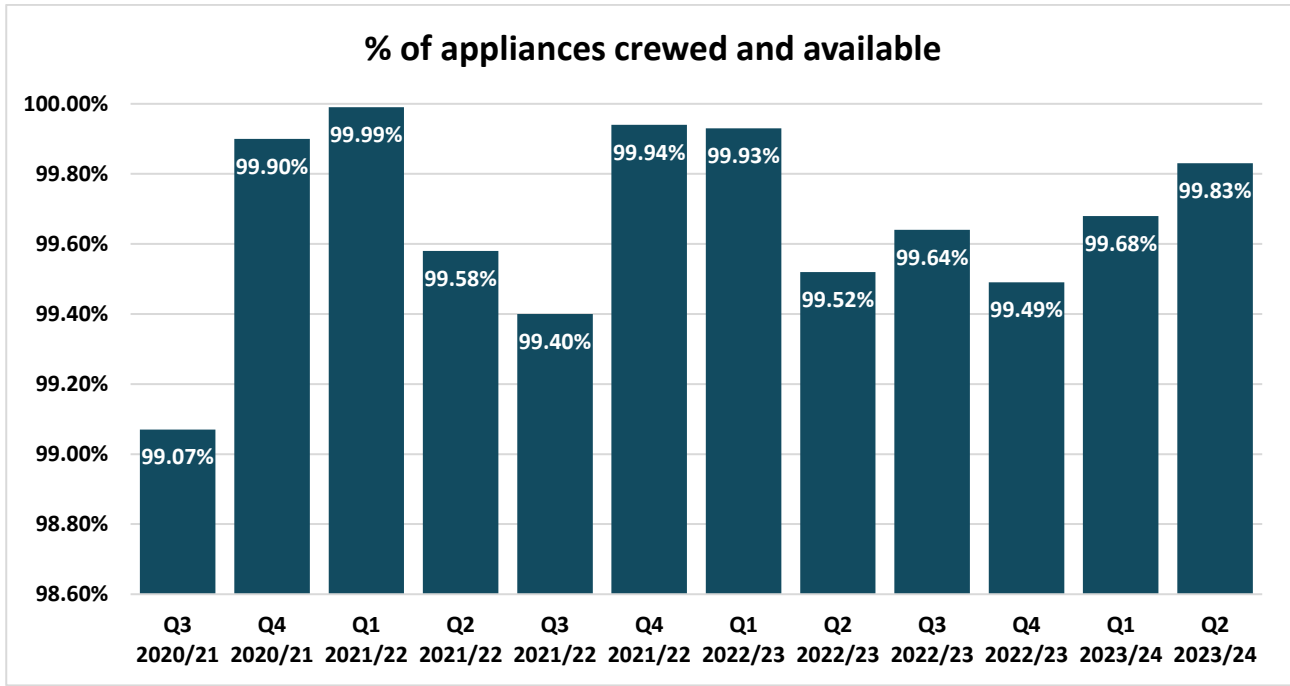
The measure includes call handling time at NWFC, time for our crews to 'turn out' to the fire engine, put on their personal protective equipment (PPE), and includes travel time to the incident location. We measure our performance against this standard for those incidents that pose the greatest risk to life such as house fires and road traffic collisions, termed 'life risk incidents', and our current performance against this is **84%**.

In July 2023, the Home Office published response data in relation to all FRSs, which highlighted the average response time to **primary fires in England for year ending March 2023 was 9 minutes 13 seconds**. **GMFRS average response time to primary fires was 7 minutes 14 seconds**, which is **1 minute 59 seconds better** than the England average. GMFRS has the 4th best average response time when comparing to our Mets family group.



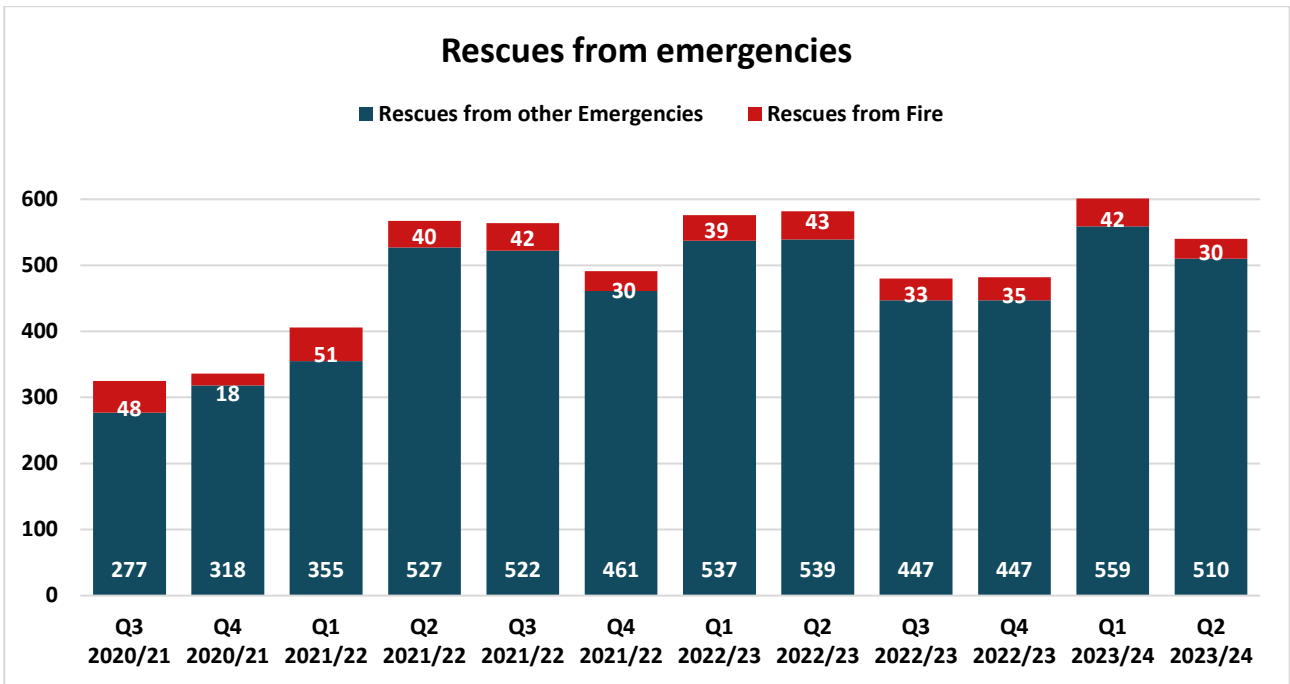
Appliances crewed and available

During Q2, **99.75%** of appliances **were crewed and available** which is **comparable to the 99.52%** during the same period last year. The target of 99.5% was achieved in both quarters this year.



Rescues from emergencies

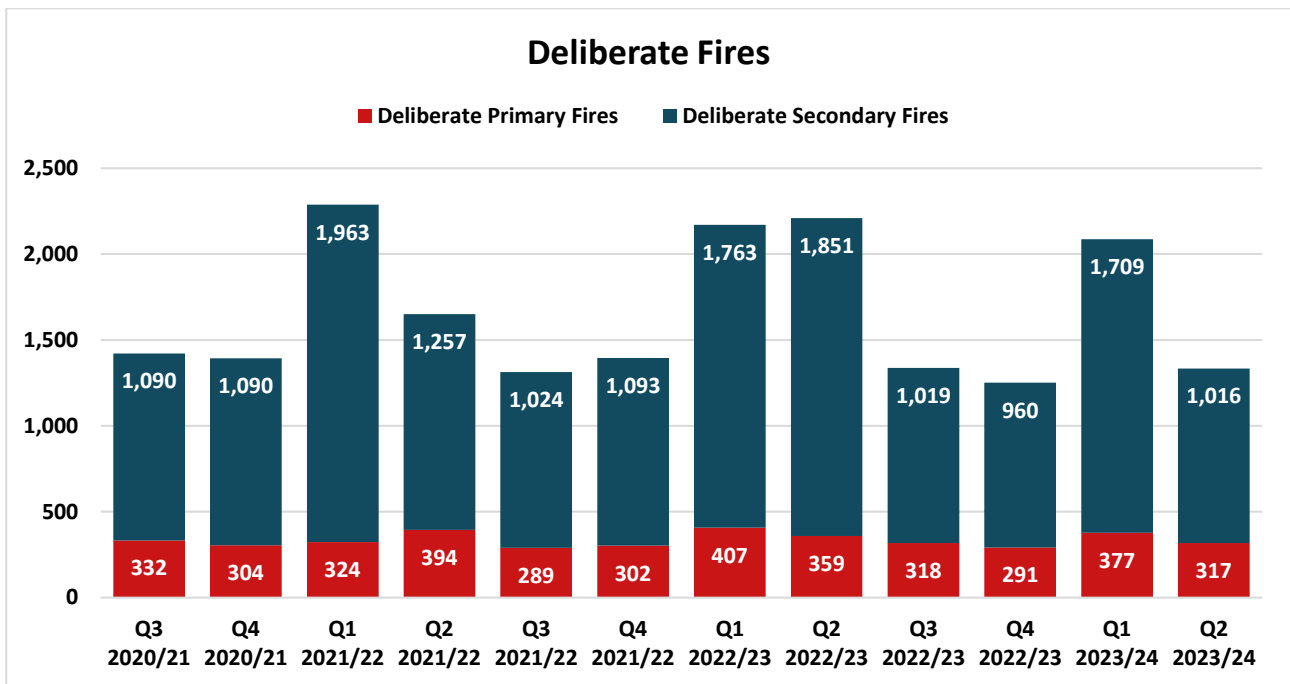
1,141 people were rescued from fire and other emergencies; 72 from fires and 1,069 from other emergency incident types, for example, people trapped in a lift, medical incidents and suicide attempts to name a few. This is comparable to the 1,158 people rescued during the first half of last year.



Deliberate Fires

There were **3,419 deliberate fires** attended during the first half of the year. A total of **694 deliberate primary** fire attended, **7 more** than the forecast and **73 less** than last year. The majority of these incidents involve buildings (342), road vehicles (305) and 47 outdoor.

A total of **2,725 deliberate secondary** fires were attended, well within the forecast of 3,591 and **902 less** than last year. The majority **1,380 (51%)** continue to involve 'loose refuse', with the second highest proportion involving 'wheelie bins' (**266/10%**).



It is worth noting that the number of deliberate fires in Q2 last year was unusually high due to the increased number of incidents attended during the hot, dry summer of 2022. In contrast to this, July 2023 was recorded by the Met Office as being ‘*the wettest July since 2009*’, which we know can align with a reduction in deliberate fires. July 2023 had the lowest monthly volume of DSFs during the month of July for at least the last 4 years.

In order to further reduce deliberate fires, an Arson Reduction Officer has recently started within our Prevention Directorate and will begin scoping how GMFRS address and reduce deliberate fire setting in Greater Manchester.

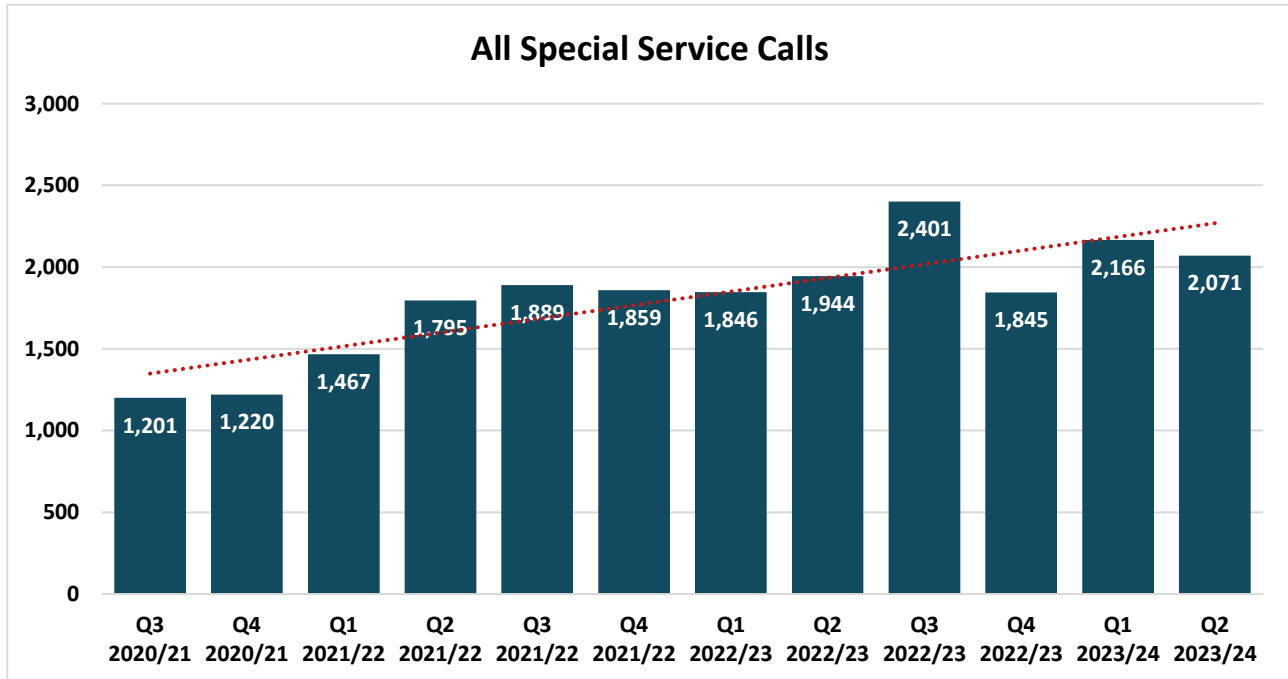
Additionally, our second Atlas project was delivered in September 2023 with the third due to run in November. The project offers a blended learning approach of classroom and drill-yard activity, allowing people who have a history of deliberate firesetting to become engaged with practical courses and have the opportunity to gain employability skills. The scheme presents many positive contributions to the fire service and Greater Manchester as a whole.

The course provides support to adults convicted of arson and help them positively reintegrate back into the community, developing purpose and both resilience and interpersonal skills. Funding has been secured from GMP ARIS funds to run the course for 12 months during 2024/25. To date there has been no reoffending or recall to prison. Work is currently being scoped to provide a “step down” process to transition participants from the course back to Probation through end of course reports and signposting to commissioned services available through external providers.



Special Service Calls (SSCs)

There were a total of **4,237 special service calls** attended, which is **445 (12%) more** than the 3,792 attended during the previous year. Whilst the direction of travel over the last 12 months is negative, this partially reflects our increased support at incidents whereby we assist other agencies.



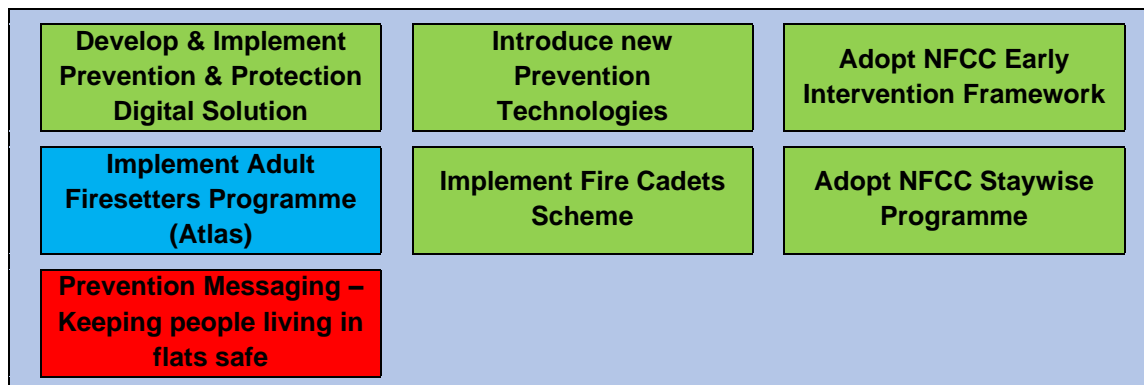
The table below provides a view of the top 5 SSC types and the variance:

SSC type	Mid-Year 22/23	Mid-Year 23/24	Variance	% Difference
RTC	965	928	-37	-4%
Effecting entry/exit	638	865	227	36%
No action (not false alarm)	246	409	163	66%
Flooding	211	303	92	44%
Lift Release	273	253	-20	-7%

Positively, **RTCs** are showing a reduction, however '**effecting entry/exit**' and '**no action (false alarm)**' SSC types are increasing. At the end of Q3 2022/23 a performance deep dive was undertaken to understand the reason for the increases. Analysis indicated that on a significant number of occasions, partner agencies requesting our attendance for access but are not directly in attendance and/or have not committed an appropriate resource to deal with outcomes of the incident. A number of recommendations were made and an interim solution to the increasing calls for GMFRS attendance was agreed with NWAS and GMP and implemented for a six-month trial period from late March 2023. A full evaluation will be carried out following the 6-month trial period.

Priority 2: Help people reduce the risks of fires & other emergencies

ADP Activity Status



Key achievements:

- ✓ The Prevention and Protection digital solution project team will lead a multi-year project to create an integrated system for recording risks related to buildings, people, and places. Anticipated completion is mid-2025.
- ✓ Virtual reality headsets have been introduced to assist with the delivery of realistic Prevention messages to staff and the community. The immersive experience teaches road safety through a variety of perspectives including drivers, pedestrians, cyclists, and motorcyclists.
- ✓ The Service is on track to deliver the NFCC Staywise programme, which provides educational emergency services resources to schools.
- ✓ The Adult Firesetters project (Atlas) has successfully rehabilitated adults convicted of fire-setting behaviours in partnership with Greater Manchester Probation Service. This pioneering project has been nominated for three awards, including Canterbury Christ Church Business and Community Impact Award 2023 for Innovation of the Year, and Excellence in Fire and Emergency Awards for Collaboration and Project of the Year.
- ✓ Four new Fire Cadet bases have been confirmed, and the programme will commence at the end of October 2023. Fire Cadets will work with high-risk youth to improve life skills and well-being through social actions. The first phase will involve 48 young people across four bases.

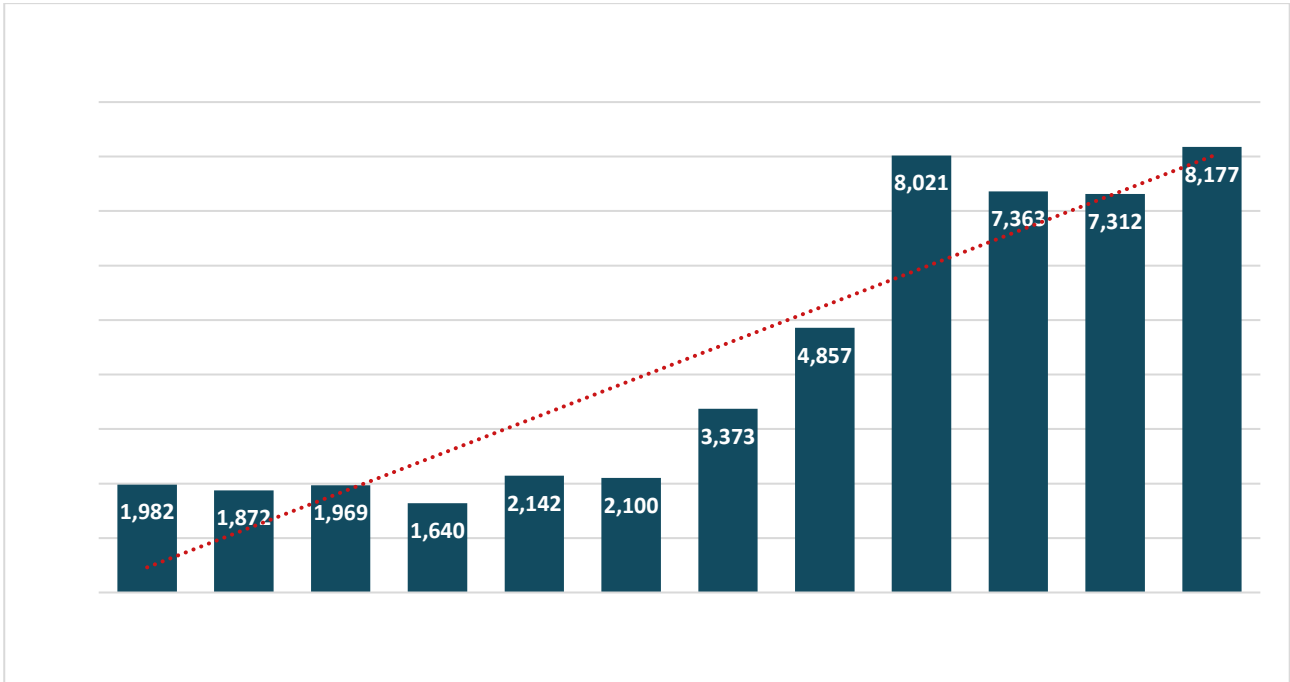
Project delays:

- ✗ Prevention Messaging project was due to close in 22/23 but after a successful 'Day of Action' in August will close in Q3 23/24.



Home Fire Safety Assessments (HFSAs)

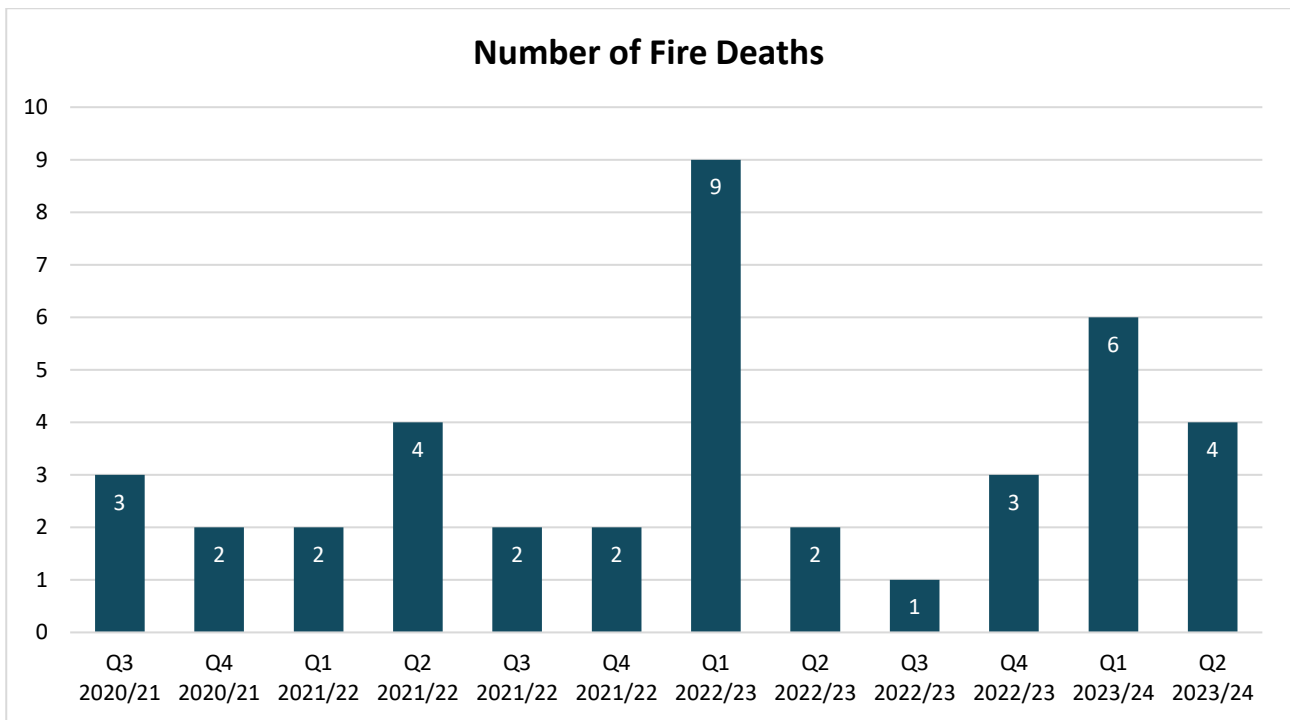
During April to September 2023 **15,489 Home Fire Safety Assessments** were delivered to high-risk homes across Greater Manchester, which is adverse to the target of 16,400, although the direction of travel is positive.



The year to date target for Operational Crews is 13,900 and the number achieved was 14,379; better than the target. The year to date target for Prevention Advisors is 2,500 and the number achieved was 1,110; 44% completion of target.

Fatalities from fire

Sadly, there have been **10 fire related fatalities** during the first half of the year, compared to 11 during the same period last year. Of these fatalities, seven occurred in unique accidental dwelling fires, one in a deliberate dwelling fire, one outdoor and one in a non-residential property.



Three of the accidental dwelling fires were in Stockport Borough, in different wards, all involving males; 2 were elderly members of the community and 1 a 39 year old. A further two were in Manchester Borough, (1 male and 1 female), both of which are believed to have been caused by carelessly discarded smoking materials. 2 were in Oldham, (1 male, 1 female), one is believed to have been caused by carelessly discarded smoking materials and the other matches and candles.

GMFRS have and continue to undertake substantial work with partners at social care and housing providers to update on our HFSA offer and the importance of referrals for persons most at risk of fire. This has been communicated and shared with all strategic leads across GM via the Community safety Partnerships.

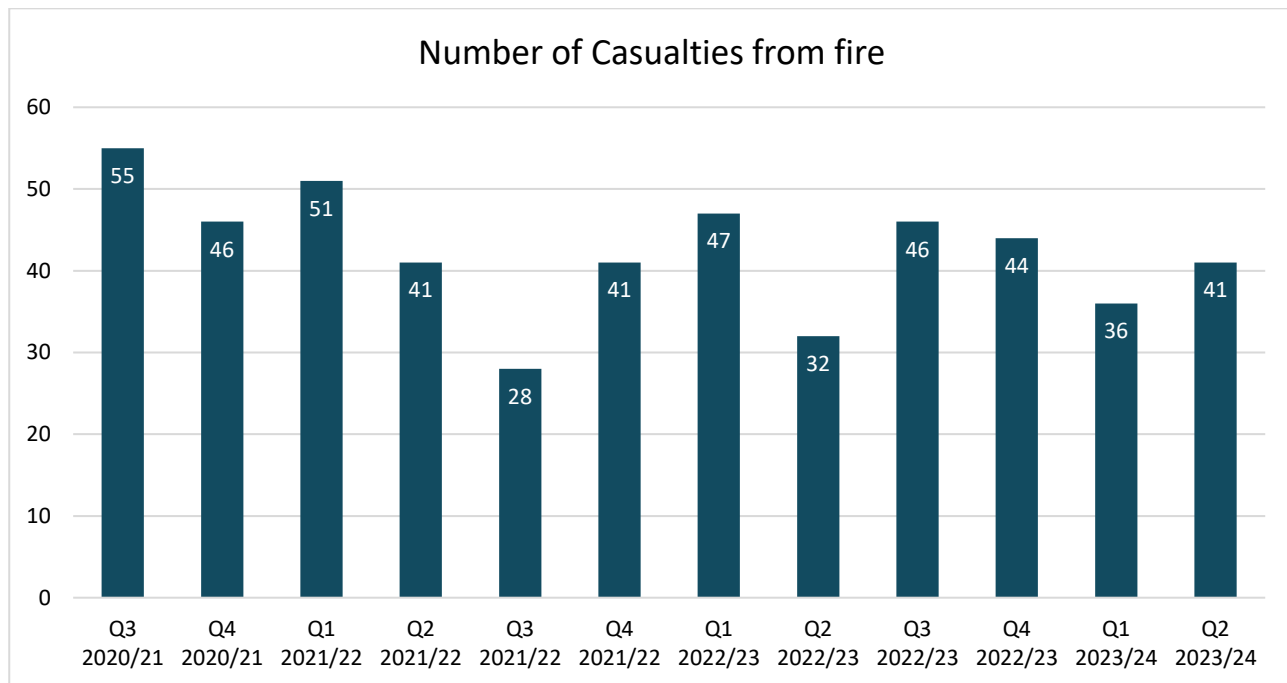
We also continue to undertake post fatal fire incident campaigns, targeting properties on street where incidents have happened via door knock and fire safety leaflet drop campaigns.



Casualties from fire

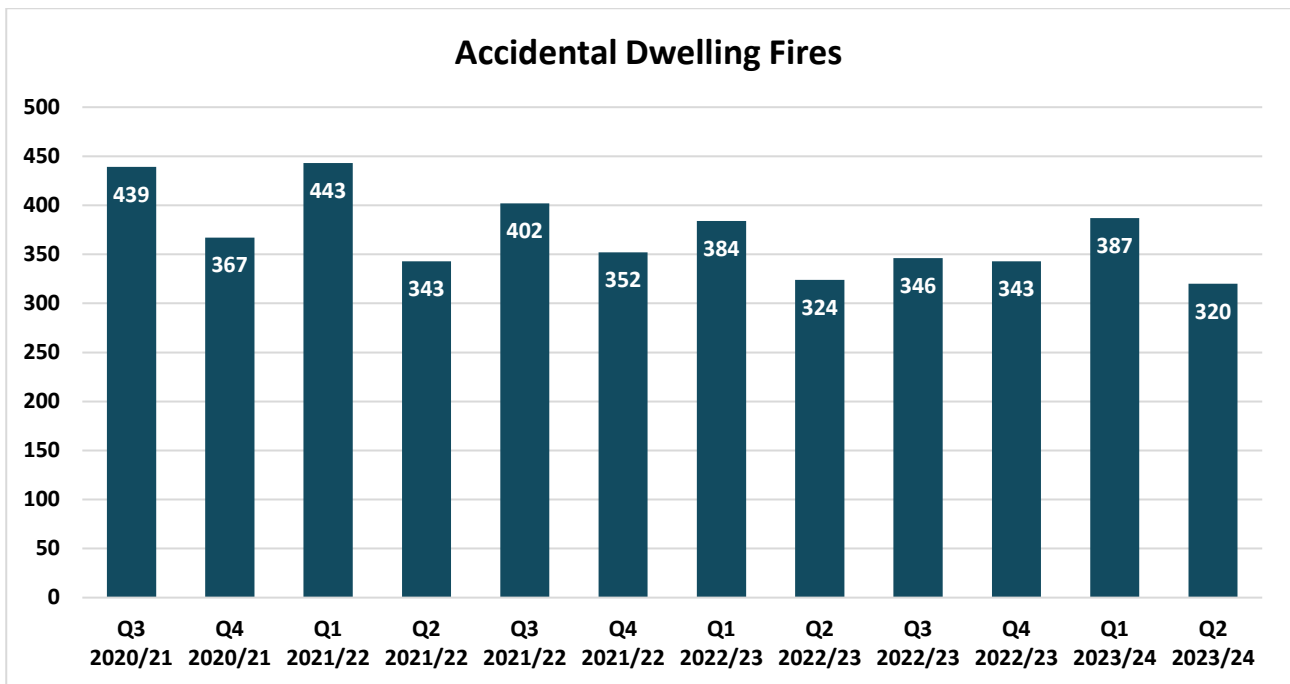
There have been **77 injuries** as a result of fire, **24 more** than the forecast and **15 less** than the same period last year. 60 of the injuries sustained were slight in nature and 17 serious. These injuries were associated with 64 unique incidents, 12 of which resulted in multiple casualties who required hospital treatment.

The majority of injuries continue to be sustained in dwelling fires, with 50 accidentally caused. We consistently promote home safety messages around safety cooking practices and carelessly disposing of smoking materials using a variety of media to help reduce injuries from fire and accidental dwelling fires.



Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs)

GMFRS attended **707** ADFs, **90 more** than the forecast and comparable to the 709 recorded during the same period last year. 90% (635 out of 707) ADFs sustained fire damage confined to the room of origin and 80% (567) had a smoke alarm fitted.



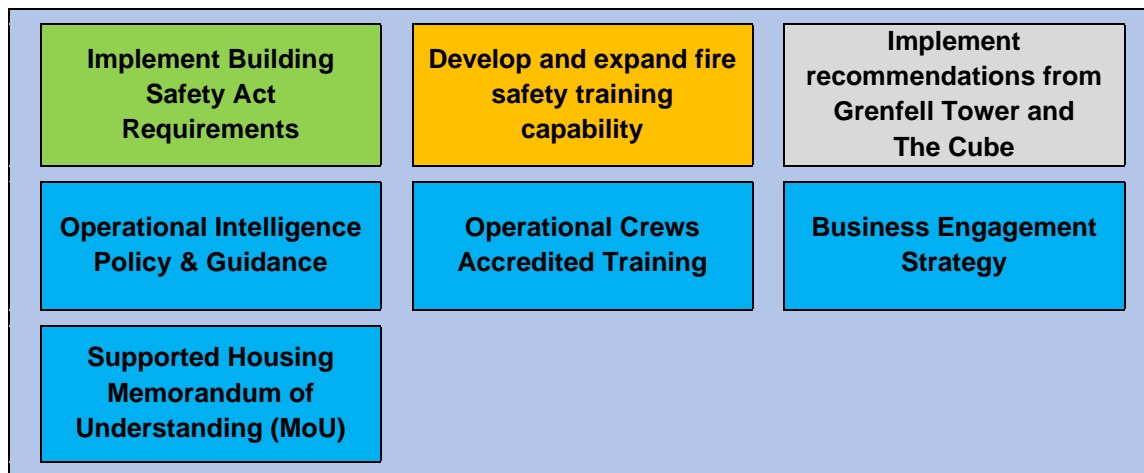
Our **Cook Safe campaign** launched in April 2023 and ran until the end of June, with the main objective to prevent accidental dwelling fires caused by cooking appliances. Our data shows that cooking related ADFs occur in all boroughs, with casualties within all age groups, genders, and ethnicities. Therefore, some universal cooking safety messages were promoted to all residents of Greater Manchester.

An emerging theme was identified locally and nationally involving e-bikes/scooters and their associated chargers being the ignition source of some accidental dwelling fires. In order for us to accurately record the data on these ignition sources, additional options have been added to our incident recording system to capture this. The data is analysed to identify any trends which is used to inform any prevention activities/campaigns.

Following an ADF a post incident Home Fire Safety Assessment (HFSA) is offered which includes fitting of a smoke alarm if required. Changes to our incident recording system (IRS) were made during Q1 to capture whether a post incident HFSA was completed, and if not the reason why. Where the reason is 'occupier went to hospital', or 'the fire damage was too extensive' a follow up visit is arranged via our Contact Centre utilising the data from IRS.

Priority 3: Help protect the built environment

ADP Activity Status



Key achievements

- ✓ The Built Environment project (implementing recommendations from Grenfell Tower and The Cube) was completed successfully in 2022/23 based on Phase 1 report recommendations. It is now on hold until the publication of Phase 2 report and any pertinent recommendations for GMFRS.
- ✓ The Business Engagement Strategy, launched during Business Week in September 2023, formalises and underpins significant engagement work by our Protection department. Themed events educate businesses to meet legal requirements and enhance the way we engage with local businesses.
- ✓ Collaborating with Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership, Local Authorities, and Support Housing Providers, GMFRS has successfully developed and agreed upon a Supported Housing Memorandum of Understanding. The MoU ensures a consistent and effective approach to managing fire safety responsibilities.
- ✓ An Operational Crews Accredited Training pilot was successfully delivered. Operational staff are now trained to provide advice to businesses and undertake Fire Safety Checks in lower risk premises.
- ✓ The Building Safety Act and Fire Safety Regulations project has fully recruited Protection Support Officers and put in place processes required to implement and assure the new regulations. In addition, a Northwest Regional team has been established.

- ✓ An Operational Intelligence Policy and Guidance was successfully implemented, improving the way we gather operational risk information for the Service.
- ✓ Fire Safety Training Capability is improving with "Level 2 Award in Carrying out Fire Safety Checks" accredited and Level 4 sent for accreditation by Skills for Justice. All level two training dates are mapped out over the next 12 months to enable all GMFRS crews to carry out checks.

Project delays:

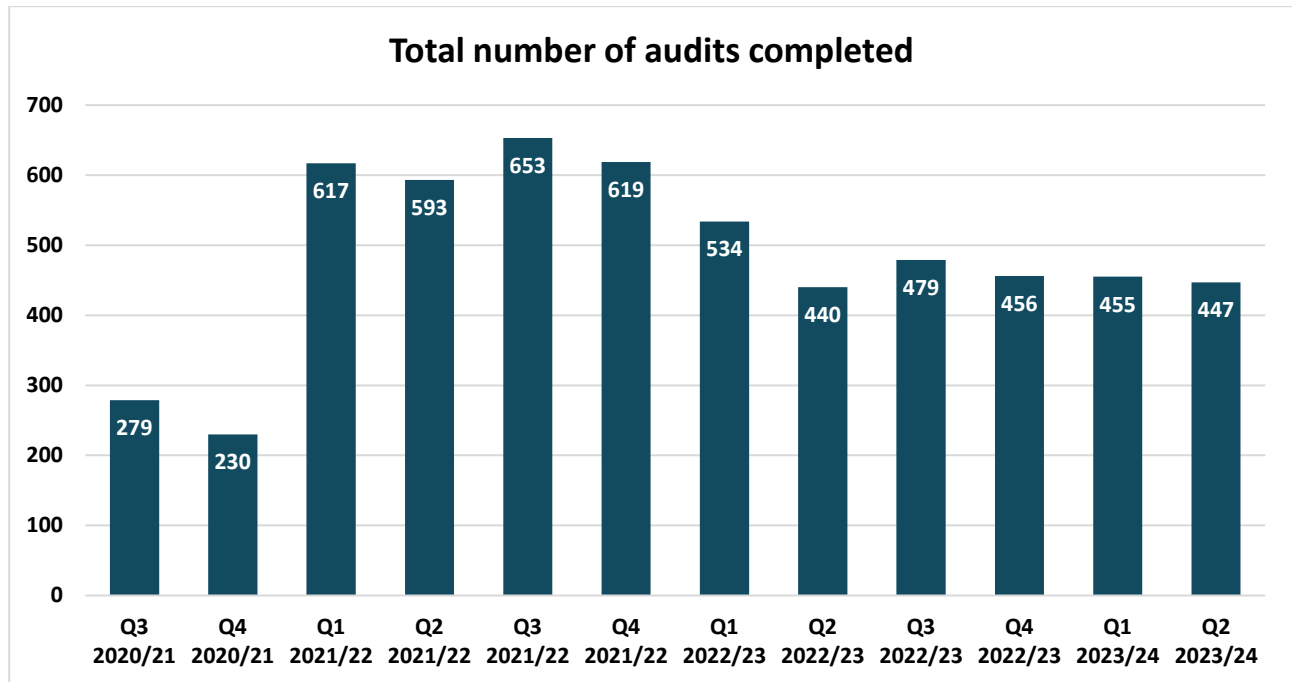
- ✗ Building Safety Act and Fire Safety Regulations project has experienced delays due to a lack of information from the Building Safety Regulator. This is a national issue, but GMFRS has prepared their response to any queries that may come through.
- ✗ There is a delay in accrediting the Level 3 Fire Safety Training as this is being reviewed at a national level by Skills for Justice.





Protection Audits

There have been **902 audits** completed during the first half of 2022/23, 84 (9%) less than the same time the previous year although the direction of travel is positive and increasing the number of audits undertaken remains a key focus for performance management.



The majority of audits were proactive audits taken from the Risk Based Inspection Programme (RBIP). There were also a number of responsive audits undertaken in response to complaints and intelligence, and as a result of post incident activity.

In addition to audits from the RBIP, Focussed Inspections have also been undertaken, these inspections are used when an audit cannot be undertaken or would not be appropriate – for example where the responsible person is not present or in response to complaints and intelligence and notice to undertake an audit cannot be provided.

The implementation of a new delivery model for Protection resulted in a reduction in performance during the first half of the year. There remains a considerable number of vacancies which are currently being recruited to with the establishment not anticipated being filled until Q4.

The outcome of audits has remained consistent, and enforcement can result in a number of notices being served in some cases with multiple notices being served against the same premises. During April to September 2023 there were 67 Prohibition Notices served and 140 Enforcement Notices served.

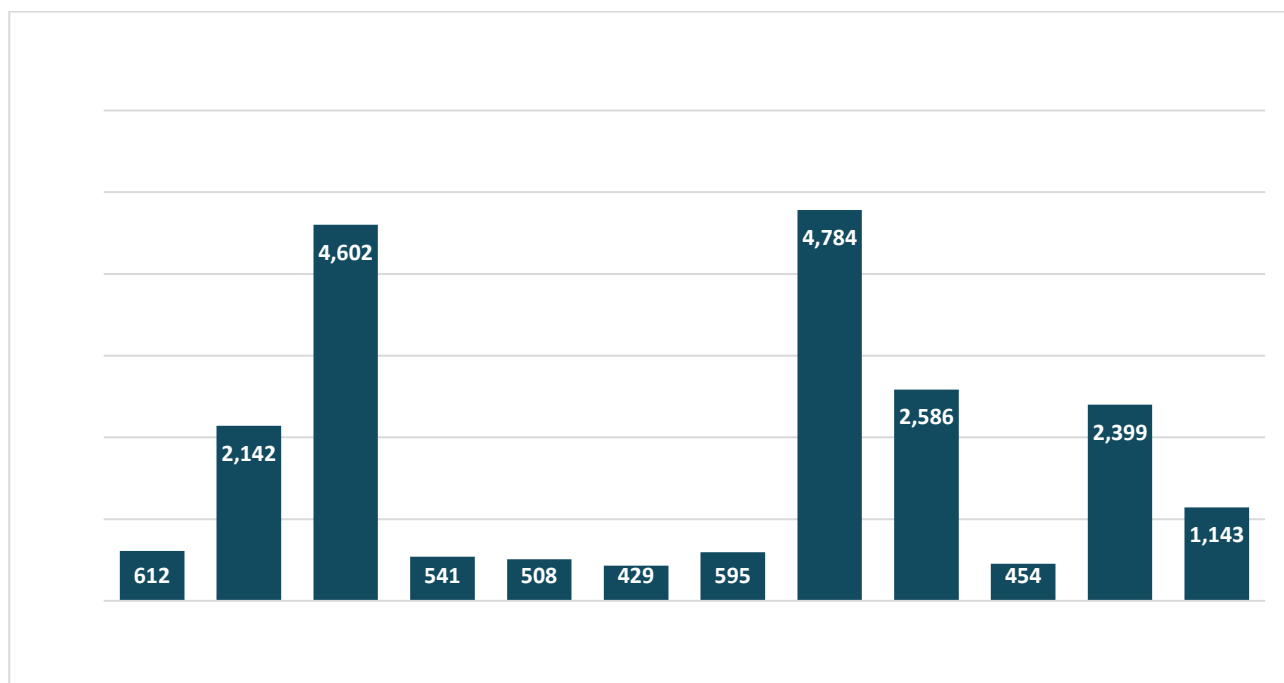
Audit outcomes at the end of Q2 are Satisfactory 263 (59%), Advice 105 (23%) and Enforcement 77 (17%).

The proportion of audits which are classified as 'satisfactory' remains consistent with previous quarters and slightly above the national average of 63% (based on 22/23 national data). However, the level of enforcement activity in GMFRS remains above the national average which is 3% of all audits resulting in enforcement action and 7% of unsatisfactory audits whereas in GMFRS enforcement action is taken against a 1/3 of unsatisfactory audits. This indicates that the revised Risk Based Inspection Programme and our approach to reactive audits is effective in targeting risk and non-compliance with the Fire Safety Order and the range of legislative powers are used appropriately.



Protection Advice

A total of **3,542 businesses received advice**, with the majority (2,399) being delivered during Q1.



There were a number of business engagement initiatives in Q1 and Q2. In Q1 the main initiative was a reminder to Licensed Premises of the risks of combustible decorations and the use of indoor fireworks following a fire in Madrid which resulted in fatalities. This built on the campaign undertaken in Q3 of last year and utilised a mailshot and a link to detailed guidance on the website. This was sent to 2,109 premises identified as being bars, pubs or restaurants.

In Q2, there were a number of initiatives which focused on changes to the Fire Safety Order and also Petroleum and Explosives. In August a Business Engagement Day was carried out in advance of Manchester Pride and events were held in September and October for Housing Providers and Managing Agents and Care Homes to outline changes to the Fire Safety Order.

All premises licensed to store explosives received a mailshot providing advice on compliance in advance of the 'selling period' for fireworks and a pro-active mailshot was sent to all Petrol Stations following a fatal incident which occurred in September at a petrol station.



Priority 4: Use resources sustainably and deliver the most value

ADP Activity Status

Deliver Financial Efficiencies £712k	Implement GMFRS Staff Intranet	Implement our Estates Programme
Implement our Sustainability Strategy	Implement Fleet & Logistics Review recommendations	Deliver our Station Refresh Programme
Implement Equipment, Maintenance & Testing System	Invest in our Fleet	

Key achievements:

- ✓ The multi-year Estates programme is progressing well with approved planning consent for Blackley and Whitefield stations; King Street's submission is on track for October 2023. This will create modern, sustainable fire stations that reflect the needs of the diverse workforce.
- ✓ Littleborough station refit is 99% complete. Operational Crews will reoccupy the station at the end of October.
- ✓ Our Station Refresh programme is on target to ensure our workforce benefit from facilities which provide high quality gyms, rest facilities and safe spaces to manage contaminants effectively.
- ✓ GMCA and GMFRS launched their first Sustainability Strategy in August 2023, focusing on five priority areas to reduce their negative environmental impact and enhance their positive impacts.
- ✓ GMFRS has been awarded the Green Apple Environment Award for 2023 within the 'environmental best practice' category for energy reduction schemes.
- ✓ Fleet and Equipment Management System procurement has commenced which will provide the Service with a fit for purpose Fleet and Equipment Management System to accurately capture and record all asset information in a central location for all Fleet, Operational Equipment and PPE assets.
- ✓ 12 new fire engines were received into GMFRS which represents a £3.5M investment in our fleet.

Project delays:

- ✘ There have been delays in some of the Estates and Refresh programme workstreams due to changes in scope, site investigation issues, and requirements for crews to be able to decant appropriately when stations are being rebuilt. The project plans have been revised and phased to ensure where areas can proceed there are no further delays.
- ✘ The Intranet project was delayed due to issues with the procurement process. The project has been rescope and a successful supplier has been awarded a contract.



Priority 5: Develop a culture of excellence, equality, and inclusivity

ADP Activity Status

Develop & embed Volunteering Strategy	Develop Engaged Workforce approach	Implement Training Review recommendations
Extend our Leadership Development Programme	Implement Phase 2 Recognition Report recommendations	Implement Organisational Learning Framework
Continue to embed Core Code of Ethics	Deliver the British Firefighter Challenge	Planning, Performance & Project Management Platform business case
Implement Wellbeing & Occupational Health Strategy & Framework	Implement FF Recruitment & Attraction Strategy	Implement Customer Insights solution
Anti Racist Practice		

Key achievements:

- ✓ Culture remains central to all Service activities. The Culture First Board has expanded its strategic significance and organisational influence, promoting values and behaviours central to our mission. An external co-chair adds objectivity and scrutiny, and the Cultural Sounding Panel ensures that staff concerns, future topics, and grassroots issues are shared transparently via two-way communication channels to the Culture First Board.
- ✓ New quarterly Middle Managers Leadership and Engagement Sessions have been established, driving organisational engagement, strategic oversight, and cultural alignment, with inspirational speakers invited for learning opportunities beyond the Fire and Rescue Service.
- ✓ Development of a dedicated dashboard to safely capture positive and negative feedback from frontline, non-managerial staff and supervisory leaders ensuring feedback is attained, themed, reported and acted upon.
- ✓ Cohorts of staff continue to be trained in CMI Level 5 and 7 Leadership and Management courses, with further sessions planned for Q3. The training promotes organisational alignment between future and current leaders of the Service, fostering a vision of excellence, equality, and inclusivity.

- ✓ GMFRS hosted the successful British Firefighter Challenge 2023 on the final weekend of July in central Manchester, with over 40 staff competing and several others supporting. Helena Brown, a firefighter at Whitefield station, became the new British Female Champion and the GMFRS Principal Officers team also won.
- ✓ GMFRS' new Organisational Learning element of the Active Monitoring System went live on July 1st. This system will electronically track learning actions from across the Service and ensure robust action plans are in place to address any issues.
- ✓ We have rolled out a new Promotion Pathway framework which has allowed the Fire Service to better identify *future leaders* candidates with high potential qualities and strong core competencies. This is already proving effective with a high volume of Crew Manager applicants and significant success rates.
- ✓ The project to implement recommendations from the training review aims to revise the training delivery model, addressing current inefficiencies and assigning equipment to individual staff instead of training courses. The pilot project is being tested in two boroughs to establish learnings before full implementation.
- ✓ The Staff Recognition and Awards Framework is vital in fostering a positive work environment, encouraging employee motivation, and enhancing productivity. By providing recognition and awards to deserving staff members, it has significantly impacted employee morale, engagement, and overall organisational performance.
- ✓ Three Long Service and Good Conduct award ceremonies celebrated GMFRS colleagues' combined total of 2,660 years of service. The events were held at the Bury Training and Development Centre, where 51 colleagues received their 20- or 30-years' service awards from the King's representative. The Chief Fire Officer, Dave Russel, presented the Long Service and Good Conduct trophy to non-frontline colleagues.
- ✓ The coronation held in May 2023 was celebrated in GMFRS stations and buildings, with the union flag flying over the bank holiday weekend. GMFRS colleagues who have served 5 years or more are eligible for the King's Coronation Medal, acknowledging their contribution to the historic event's success and their everyday efforts to keep communities safe.

Project delays:

- ✗ Whilst there have been some initial delays to the development of the Organisational Learning Framework to ensure stakeholder feedback was appropriately integrated, this has now been developed and will be approved and embedded into the Service through quarter 3.

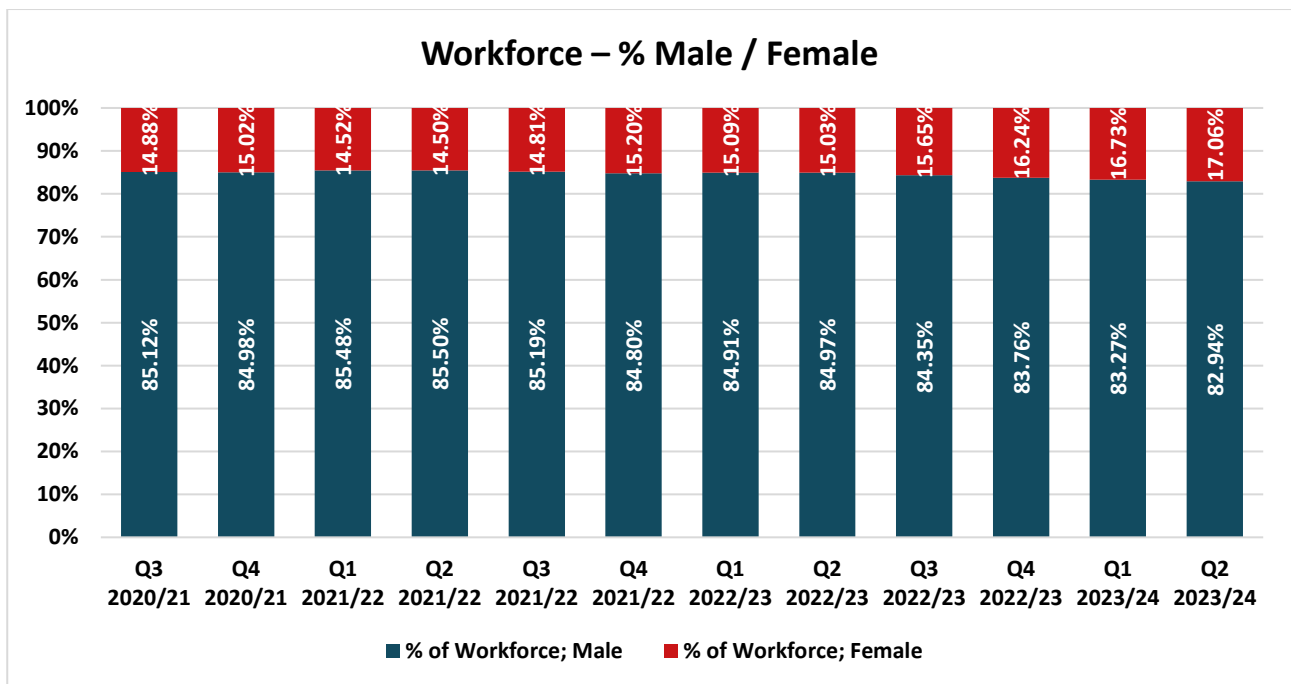
- ✘ There is a delay of 2 months to the *Planning, Performance & Projects Digital Solution Project*, due to both capacity and availability issues during scheduling period for the user requirements sessions. This has left very little time to complete both the business case and schedule via the appropriate governance. Mitigating activities have now been arranged to address the delay and minimise the impact on the wider Service.



Workforce – % Male / Female

The overall female workforce percentage has shown **an improvement of 2.03%** when comparing to the end of Q2 last year and the direction of travel is positive.

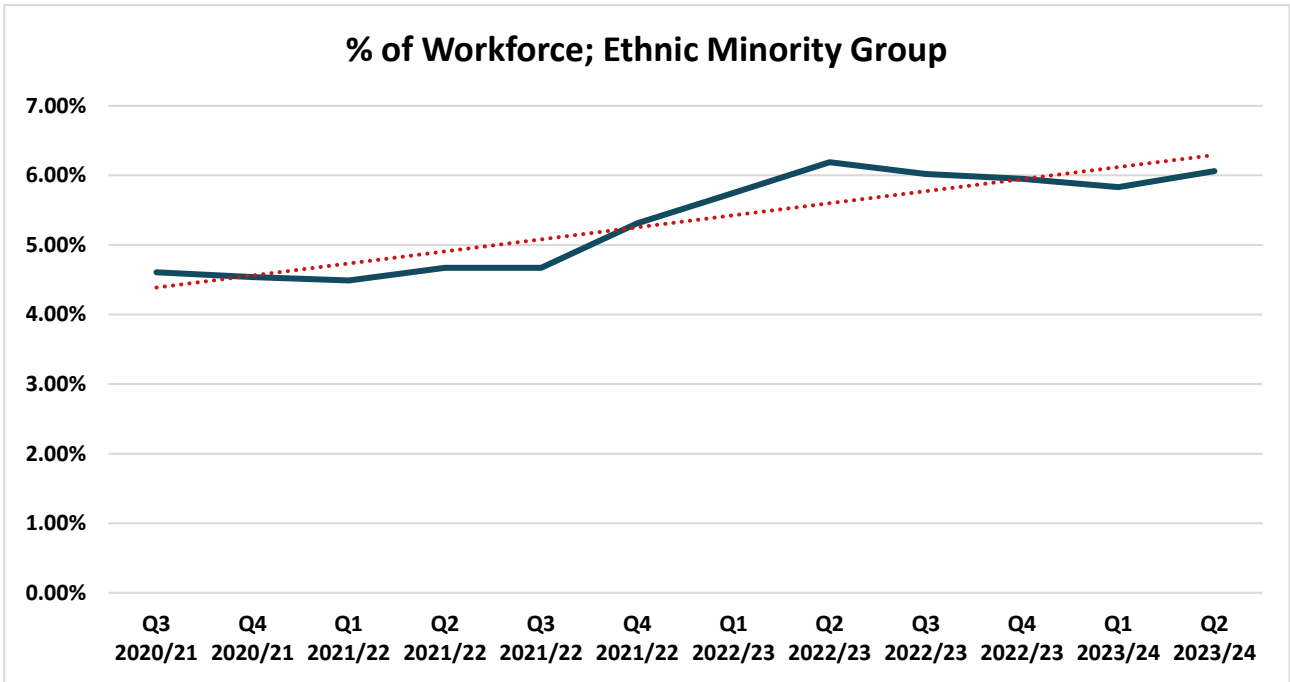
At the end of Q2 2023/24 **8.01% of firefighters were women** compared with 7.22% at the end of Q2 last year. This number continues to steadily increase from a low of 1.83% in April 2015.



Workforce - % Ethnic Minority Group

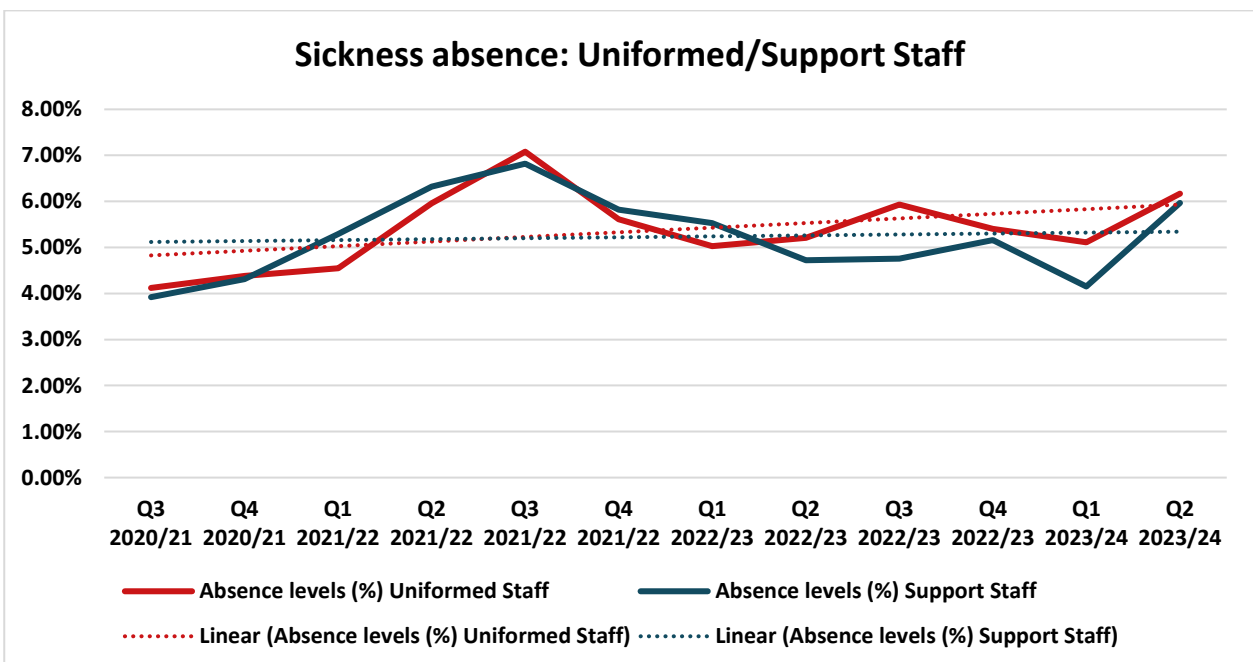
The overall proportion of staff from an ethnic minority group was **6.06%** which shows a **marginal decrease of 0.13%** when compared to Q2 last year, although a slight improvement of 0.23% compared to Q1 2023/24.

The proportion of **firefighters from an ethnic minority group** was **6.65%** in Q2 2023/24, equal to Q2 last year. In relation to **support staff**, this figure has decreased by **0.42%** when comparing the same reporting periods.



Absence Levels – All Staff

The overall level of **sickness absence** for the first two quarters of 2023/24 is **6.14%** which is adverse to the target of 5% and an increase of 0.44% compared to the same period last year. There has also been an **increase of 1.17%** when compared to the previous quarter.



Increases in sickness absence have been observed in both Uniformed and Support staff. The table below shows a breakdown of sickness absence performance by quarter, by staff group;

SICKNESS ABSENCE	Prev YTD	Current YTD	Target	Q2 2022/23	Q3 2022/23	Q4 2022/23	Q1 2023/24	Q2 2023/24
Absence levels Overall	5.12%	5.56%	5.00%	5.15%	5.77%	5.36%	4.97%	6.14%
Uniformed Staff	5.12%	5.64%	5.00%	5.21%	5.93%	5.40%	5.11%	6.17%
Support Staff	5.13%	5.06%	5.00%	4.72%	4.76%	5.16%	4.15%	5.97%

Overall, the top three reasons for sickness are Musculo Skeletal, Gastro Intestinal and Mental Health which make up almost 67% of long-term and short-term sickness, however in terms of time lost there was more time lost for Mental Health and Musculo skeletal absence.

GMFRS has a wide range of existing tools and support for staff to reach out to such as the Employee Assistance Programme provider Health Assured, Peer Supporters, Chaplains. We also increased health surveillance for some groups, along with embedding CISM. We also refreshed our Wellbeing Strategy in May 2022 and our supporting Health and Wellbeing Framework and Policy, addressing psychological, physical and workplace wellbeing in order to reduce sickness absence and improve overall staff wellbeing.

There has been a positive change in the working relationship between the Employee Relations and Wellbeing team which is focussed on improved management of cases and appropriate provision of welfare support for employees and managers engaged in these processes helping to minimise sickness absence and prevent further future absence.

A new report by the CIPD has found that sickness absence rates have reached a 10-year high, with stress being the biggest contributing factor. From previous studies it is already clear that stress, anxiety and depression have been among the leading causes of workplace sickness absence for several years – but rates have increased further since the COVID-19 pandemic and are now at their highest level for over two decades.

Rachel Suff, Senior Employee Wellbeing adviser at the CIPD, the professional body for HR and people development said: *“Despite our research showing that most organisations are focusing on employee wellbeing, the considerable rise in absences across all sectors is a worry.*

External factors like the COVID-19 pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis have had profound impacts on many people's wellbeing".

The report found the top causes of short-term absence are:

- Minor illnesses (94%)
- Musculoskeletal injuries (45%)
- Mental ill health (39%)

Causes of long-term absence are similar:

- Mental ill health (63%)
- Acute medical conditions, such as stroke or cancer (51%)
- Musculoskeletal injuries (51%)

A performance deep dive in relation to sickness absence was requested at our Q1 2023/24 performance board meeting and will be presented at the Q2 performance board meeting in November 2023. The findings and recommendations will be shared in the mid-year report covering the period October to March 2023/24.

Priority 6: Integrate our services in every locality with those of partner agencies

ADP Activity Status

Implement Fire Station Community Pathway	Implement 'What Works Forum'	Enhance Blue Light Collaboration
Continue to implement Integrated Place Based Working Framework	Implement and evaluate Place-Based Plans	Serious Violence Duty Partnerships / Pathways

Key achievements: -

- ✓ GMFRS staff and partners undertook the Integrated Place Based Working (IPBW) Framework Maturity Assessment, tracking progress against the 30 commitments within the Framework to deliver integrated services in response to local risks. The report recommendations will feed into the 'What Works Forum' project for implementation, beginning in Q3 this year.
- ✓ Implementation of the newly designed Place Based Plans has begun, with templates and guidance in place for operational staff. Staff training on the new templates will precede development of locality Place Based Plans in Q4 2024/25. Additionally, the Community Engagement App has been refreshed and improved to support activity recording throughout the year.
- ✓ GMFRS worked on increasing visibility of area and station-based teams to partners and communities with a refreshed 'Your Area' website section. The website now includes management teams, available appliances, defibrillator locations, and home fire safety assessment information for each station.
- ✓ Work is ongoing to diversify and expand our social media platforms, allowing crews to be trained in their use to increase interaction with their local communities. A social media management platform, Orlo, has therefore been procured, and will be implemented in year.
- ✓ The Blue Light Collaboration Portal is now live, offering an innovative and accessible digital platform to share good practices, lessons learned, and ideas for future collaboration among all Blue Light Services. The portal demonstrates GMFRS' commitment to working collaboratively with other services in a solution-focused manner.

- ✓ GMFRS involved in developing Violence Reduction Unit strategy and work plan for Programme Challenger which is tackling serious and organised crime in Greater Manchester.

Project delays: -

- ✗ Positive have been no project delays during this period.



Evaluation and Assurance Activities

Evaluation

The GMFRS Evaluation Framework was developed to provide guidance on best practise that should be used when conducting evaluation across the Service. This framework and supporting toolkit was launched in July 2021; however, the framework started to be applied consistently following the launch of the Fire Plan 2021-25 and the first Annual Delivery Plan (ADP).

During the period 1st April 2023 to 30th September 2023, there has been continued focus on ensuring that projects outlined in the ADP are evaluated to understand the outcomes and impacts of the activities delivered. Evaluation is considered for all projects within the ADP and where appropriate, evaluation plans will be created for these projects. During this period, work has taken place to start embedding evaluation within directorate level, or business as usual, projects. This is important as it ensures the organisation is learning about the impact and effectiveness of projects and activities taking place at all levels within the organisation.

In this period, the new Evaluation Portal was officially launched and communicated with staff across the organisation. The portal contains the following information:

- An evaluation register: This is a list of all evaluation activities across GMFRS, and it will provide an 'at a glance' view of how each evaluation is progressing. It also links to any relevant reports or documentation.
- An evaluation library: This will be a repository for all evaluation documentation and reports. It brings together all evaluation reports and documentation into one accessible location so colleagues can review evaluation findings from work that has been completed. This information may be useful in supporting planning for future projects.
- Guidance and training materials: The portal also contains links to GMFRS evaluation guidance and any other relevant training materials.

Work will continue during the remainder of 2023/24 to add additional functionality to the portal.

Some key evaluation activities completed during this period include:

- The Atlas project evaluation
- Evaluation of MTA training
- Integrated place based working maturity assessment
- Launch of an evaluation framework for Operational Equipment and Technical team (to capture standardised feedback when new equipment is on trial.

Work will continue to deliver evaluation activities during the remainder of 2023/24. During this period, the following evaluations are expected to be completed:

- Independent review of Safe Drive Stay Alive
- Evaluation of Home Fire Safety Assessments
- Launch of an evaluation framework for training
- Health and wellbeing maturity assessment
- Review of Customer Insight surveys.

His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services



GMFRS was first inspected by the HMICFRS in 2019 and subsequently in 2021. The HMICFRS inspects each Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) against the 3 pillars of Effectiveness, Efficiency and People; within each of these pillars they assess specific areas of each FRS.

An Improvement Action Plan was developed in response to the inspection findings. The action plan not only included the 16 identified Areas for Improvement, but also those areas the inspection had commented where the Service could be better.

Over the last two years extensive work has been undertaken across the Service to address the Areas for Improvement, all of which have now been fully discharged.

Significantly, GMFRS was issued with a Cause for Concern regarding its ability to respond to a marauding terrorist attack (MTA) and addressing this area has been a priority for the Service. Due to the extensive work addressing policies, procedures, training, exercising and the provision of equipment this Cause for Concern was closed by HMICFRS in September 2022. Further training, exercising and the provision of equipment continues to ensure that GMFRS has one of the best MTA responses in the UK.

Our third inspection commenced in September 2023. The process involves reporting against the Cause of Concern and Areas for Improvement from the 2021 inspection.

Question	This inspection
Effectiveness	Requires improvement
Understanding fires and other risks	Good
Preventing fires and other risks	Requires improvement
Protecting the public through fire regulation	Requires improvement
Responding to fires and other emergencies	Good
Responding to major and multi-agency incidents	Requires improvement

Question	This inspection
Efficiency	Requires improvement
Making best use of resources	Requires improvement
Future affordability	Good

Question	This inspection
People	Good
Promoting the right values and culture	Good
Getting the right people with the right skills	Good
Ensuring fairness and promoting diversity	Good
Managing performance and developing leaders	Requires improvement

As part of this process, we provide a comprehensive range of documents, data, and information for the HMICFRS to review. This included the production of a Self-Assessment of our Service all of which will inform the HMICFRS where we are on our improvement journey and the progress made since our last inspection.

We believe we have made significant progress and we are looking forward to the HMICFRS having the opportunity to assess and recognise all the work we have completed, not only in addressing improvement areas, but across every aspect of our endeavours to serve the public of Greater Manchester. We also value the external scrutiny they may offer in identifying further development opportunities which will inform our plans for the future. We anticipate our inspection report will be published in February 2024.

To better inform the national picture of culture within fire and rescues services in England HMICFRS are undertaking a thematic inspection on the handling of misconduct. Our Service has been selected as one of ten services to ensure we evidence is gathered from large and small, and rural and urban services as well as different governance models that operate throughout England. As this is a thematic inspection, HMICFRS will not be publishing reports on individual services or making graded judgments however, we welcome being selected and anticipate feedback on the effectiveness of our policies and procedures in this regard.

Fire Standards

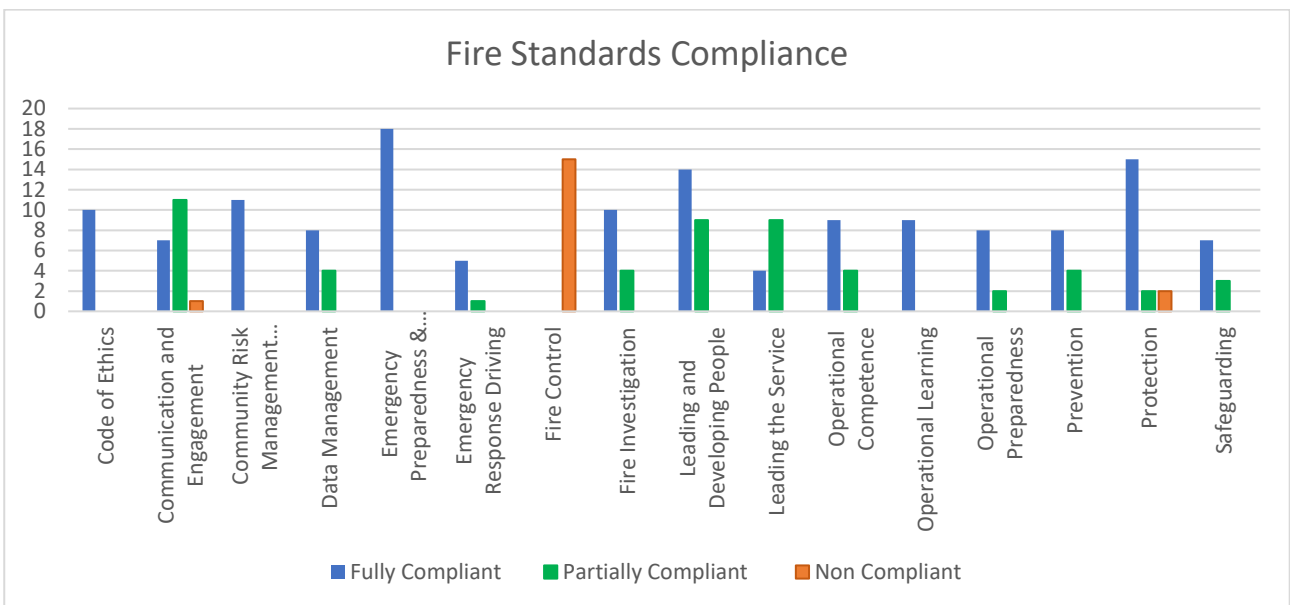
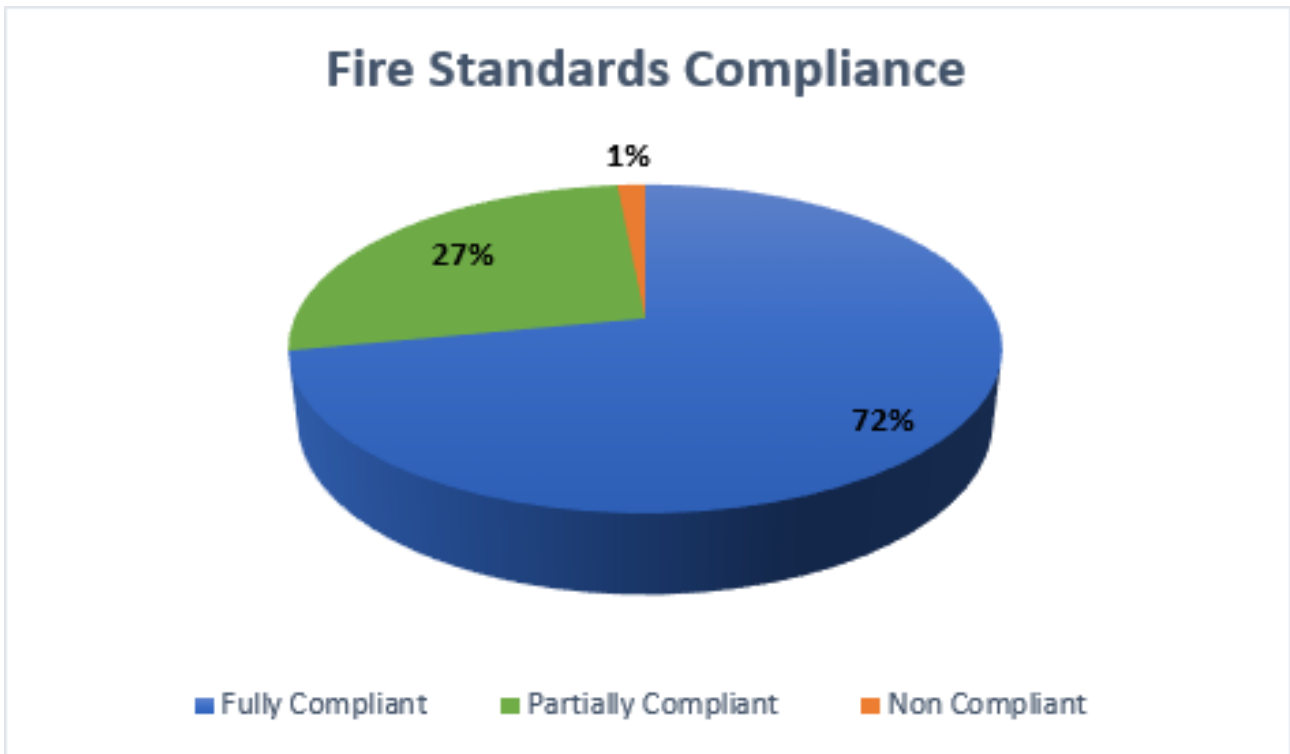
The Fire Standards Board has been set up to oversee the identification, organisation, development, and maintenance of professional Standards for fire and rescue services in England and is responsible for approving Standards and the approach to their development.

Each Standard identifies the desired outcome, what Services must have in place to achieve that outcome and the expected benefits of meeting the Standard. These Standards are principle-based rather than prescriptive, allowing GMFRS to implement them within the Service with a degree of individuality, whilst reassuring the public of commonality and consistency across the sector.

There have been sixteen Fire Standards released to-date, the most recent were Fire Control and Communication & Engagement standards both released in March 2023. Each standard sets out a range of compliance criteria requirements, with a total of 214 standard requirements across the sixteen released.

The Service has done extensive assurance activities to evaluate compliance with fifteen Standards, excluding the Fire Control Standard published in March, which is being overseen by North West Fire Control and we are currently awaiting the outcome of their gap analysis.

Currently our evidence identifies that we are fully or partially compliant against 196 (99%) of the 199 criteria requirements across the 15 standards (excluding Fire Control).



[View the standards](#)

Community Activities

Working with partners and in communities is a fundamental to ensure the effective delivery of our Services to the communities, and the below highlights some of these activities:

Road Safety - GMFRS have started to deliver road safety education using Virtual Reality Headsets that provide an immersive 360° film experience. We are now a member of THE ICE HUB, with access to 360° films, that include all road users and age groups. The membership consists of Fire, Police, Local Authority and other Road Safety Organisations from across the United Kingdom. Virtual reality lends itself perfectly to many safety and awareness and education messages and now being a member of the ICE group we can co-fund new films to meet our messaging needs. This new technology has been showcased at a Road Safety Event in May at Farnworth Station. Several Partners supported the event, this included GMP, Highways England and the British Red Cross. The event involved an overview of the Air Unit, TRU equipment and capabilities and an RTC practical demonstration. We had attendance from our Deputy Mayor Kate Green who came to launch the new headsets, along with Deputy Chief Fire Officer Ben Norman. The Deputy Mayor was the first to experience our new 360° films along with Partners.

Prisons - following some increased activity in HMP Forest Bank Prison relating to Deliberate Primary Fires, the Agecroft Station Manager has been involved in a joint exercise with a view to improving procedures and also engaging with prison residents to improve relations. Blue Watch Manager Si Ryder carried out some sessions with the residents which involved running Firefighter Tests to support rapport building and increase awareness among residents on the impact these incidents have on the local crews.

Pride Parade - Staff and volunteers from across our Service and GMCA took part in the Pride parade on Saturday 26 August. With a great slot up front in the parade, we got the best of the weather and had a fantastic time engaging with people along the route. We gave out lots of goodies that promoted fire alarm testing too. Along with participation in the parade, our Protection colleagues carried out door step advice activity recorded as periodic theme interventions.

Open Days - Over 300 hours were logged for open days, hosted across 19 stations. On Sunday 3 September, our colleagues at Blackley Community Fire Station organised an open day supporting The Fire Fighters Charity with over £410 raised. On Saturday 19 August Wythenshawe crews hosed a wonderful open day and received the following feedback from a member of the public "Just to say a big thank you to all the staff who

worked on the Family Open Day last Saturday. My two boys had a great time and really enjoyed interacting with all the firefighters, police officers and paramedics. Thank you for all your efforts."

Student Fire Safety Week - (25 September – 1 October) Advertising in student magazines for fresher's/welcome week - using campaign artwork for water safety and cooking fire safety. Social media messages throughout the week. Friday 29 September - Day of action in high-risk high rise student premises, in Manchester and Salford, to talk to residents about flat fire safety. The day saw crews speaking with students about flat fire safety, smoke alarms, and building evacuation procedures – as well as promoting water safety (don't drink and drown) and e-bike/e-scooter battery safety messages.

Operation Vulcan – We have been part of another successful Op Vulcan seizure. We raised safety concerns over a distribution warehouse on Great Ducie Street, Cheetham Hill, and served a prohibition order on the property. Greater Manchester Police recently executed a warrant there after intelligence came to light suggesting it was being used to supply a network of counterfeit stores throughout Cheetham Hill. The number of items seized have an estimated worth of £1.2million pounds.

High Rise Day of Action – The Service ran a high rise day of action with operational crews out and about in Salford, Manchester and Bolton visiting high rise properties and talking to them about flat fire safety and their building evacuation procedures.



Water Safety – Fire Crews and partners across Greater Manchester engaged in World Drowning Prevention Day on 25th July 2023. Crews from Manchester trained door staff from water-side bars on what to do if someone falls or jumps in the water; Salford crews engaged with the public in Salford Quays, sharing the messages of Stay Calm, Stay on Land and Call 999 as well as how to access and use the public throwlines in the area.

Our prevention education team held a firefighter experience day at Pennington Flash with young people from Leigh Youth Hub. Working with Leigh Station Green Watch the group learnt about water safety, the role of a firefighter and tried out some drill yard skills like shipping a hydrant and rolling out hose. Green Watch also gave them a practical demo of how to throw a throw line to somebody in difficulty in the water.



Festival of Rescue - Our Extrication, Rope and Trauma teams took part in this year's United Kingdom Rescue Organisation Festival of Rescue to test and expand their skills.

Our Extrication Team has proudly retained their title as Best Extrication Team. They've also taken home Best Incident Commander, Best Medical Team, and were placed second in 'Technical Rescue Operators'. For the first time, two of our Corporate Trainers competed in the trauma care challenge where they gained positive feedback and invaluable learning to bring back to GMFRS.

On the back of last year's win, the team is already back at training for the 2023 World Rescue Challenge taking place in Lanzarote next month.



Incidents of Note

April 19, 2023 – Bradley Lane, Stretford.

Firefighters were called out to a large fire involving two commercial units containing a number of vehicles and machinery on Bradley Lane, Stretford. Several fire engines, a hose laying lorry and a hydraulic platform from across Greater Manchester attended along with our Scorpion appliance.



May 8, 2023 – Spa Road, Bolton.

Operational crews were dispatched to Spa Road, Bolton, in response to a fire at a dilapidated mill. The blaze covered three levels of the five-story structure and was extinguished by firefighters using water jets. Due to hazardous conditions, the crew used a hydraulic platform to tackle the situation from the building's exterior. The incident was attended by six fire engines from Bolton, Bolton North, Farnworth, and Horwich stations. The Leigh hydraulic platform, Bolton's command support unit, Leigh's technical response unit, and the air unit also responded to the scene.



June 17, 2023 – Victoria Works, Clifton Street, Manchester.

Operational crews tackled a fire affecting two industrial buildings on Clifton Street. The fire involved a large multi occupied commercial site and spread to several neighbouring units. At the height of the incident we had eight appliances and numerous other support vehicles were in attendance.



June 17, 2023 – Railway Road, Horwich.

GMFRS crews were called to reports of a fire at a derelict commercial property on Railway Road, Horwich. Three fire engines from Horwich, Wigan and Atherton stations, alongside the hydraulic platform from Leigh, attended the incident.



June 24, 2023 – St Thomas Street, Oldham.

Emergency services were called to reports of a fire on Saint Thomas Street North in Oldham and response teams from GMFRS, GMP and accompanying medical professionals rushed to the scene. Sadly, a 42-year-old woman passed on despite the best efforts of first responders, and a 15-year-old was conveyed to the hospital with serious injuries. Firefighters worked through the night to extinguish the fire and contain it. Residents residing in neighbouring homes were evacuated, and nearby streets were cordoned off.

June 27, 2023 - Highfield Industrial Estate, West End Street, Oldham.

GMFRS were called to Highfield Industrial Estate on West End Street just outside Oldham town centre to reports of smoke coming from one of the units. The unit was said to contain large quantities of hazardous chemicals. Five fire engines from Heywood, Chadderton, Ashton, Bury and Blackley fire stations were quickly mobilised to the scene and decontamination procedures were implemented. Greater Manchester Police evacuated Oldham College and a nearby gym as a precaution.



August 17, 2023 – SS Simon and Jude CofE Primary School, Bolton.

Operational crews worked tirelessly to extinguish a major fire at SS Simon and Jude CofE Primary School on Newport Road in Bolton. At the height of the response, 17 fire engines from across Greater Manchester were in attendance at the primary school.



August 9, 2023 – Chester Road, Old Trafford.

Firefighters tackled a huge blaze at a derelict building on Chester Road, Old Trafford. At its height, 10 fire appliances attended the scene, supported by specialist vehicles and equipment, used to douse the flames with water on aerial platforms.

August 31, 2023 - Chorley Old Road, Bolton.

Firefighters were called to a blaze at a vacant terraced house on Old Chorley Road, Bolton around 3am on Thursday, August 31st. The fire covered both floors of the building and was tackled defensively due to risk to firefighters. It required eight fire engines, along with several specialised appliances from across Greater Manchester, to extinguish it.



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Agenda Item 9

	Version	Jan 2023- March 2024	GMP reports				
		Completed	GMFRS reports				
Police and Crime Panel	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer	Police and Crime Steering Group	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer
26th Jan 2023	17th Jan 2023	Precept proposal report	Steve Wilson	13th Feb 2023	6th Feb 2023	CONTEST report - Fiona Worrall	Fiona Worrall
		Police Fund Qtr 3	Steve Wilson			Fire 2023-24 Annual delivery plan (Draft)	Ben Norman
		GMP Performance update					
		Fire Budget	Steve Wilson			Crime Futures programme (end to end management of crime)	Richard Mcnamara to confirm
		FIRE Mid year performance report - April - Oct 2022/23	Ben Norman			Tackling Domestic Abuse	Neil Evans/ Carol Judge- Campbell
		GMFRS Strategic Planning Communication (Inc 3 min Video)	Ben Norman			GM drug trends	Mark Knight. Rob Ralphs
	for information	Decisions					
23rd March 2023	15th March 2023	GMFRS Annual Delivery Plan 23-24	Sarah Scoales / Ben Norman	20th April 23	12th April send out	Commissioning of the Resident and Victim perceptions of Policing and Community Safety survey	Lisa Lees/Neil Evans
		Police Vetting (to include conduct issues as a verbal update) Also GMFRS conduct issues as a verbal update	Terry Woods/ GMP Governance Ben Norman -			Safe Spaces report	Vicky Sugars/Matt Berry
		State of Fire report and GM Implications	Jim Cessford/Ben Norman			Tackling Anti-social behaviour, including on Public Transport	Oliver Collins/Sara Duckett
		GMP Update - Plan on a Page	Terry Woods/ GMP Governance			RASSO	Alison Connelly/ GMP DCS Michaela Kerr
	for information	Decisions taken by the Deputy Mayor	Lisa Lees			GMFRS ADP 23-24 / Engagement - You Said We Did	Sarah Scoales
		Police Fund Budget report	Rachel Rosewell/ Steve Wilson			Tackling deliberate fires in derelict buildings within GM	Mike Clark/Billy Fenwick
	to follow item	Neighbourhood Policing report	Terry Woods			Fire cover review, consultation proposal	Deputy Mayor to confirm
Next Municipal year							
Police and Crime Panel	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer	Police and Crime Steering	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer
12 th June (1-3)	send out 2/6, papers 1/6	Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair	Jeanette Staley	22nd June 23	deadline date 12th June	Mental Health - key issues and impacts	Neil Evans/Amanda Murray GMP
		Rules of Procedure Annual complaints report Appointment to the Panel	Jeanette Staley/Gwynne Williams			Building Safety Reforms	Jenni Seex (GMFRS)

		GMP Carbon reduction and proposed measures for Performance scorecard	GMP				
		Stop & Search & FCC performance update	C/Supt RMcN/ GMP Governance			Complex Safeguarding	Damian Dallimore
		Police Budget	Rachel Rosewell/ Steve Wilson			Serious Violence Annual update and Forward Look	Damian Dallimore/ Dan Diamond
		GMFRS: a. Strategy update. B. GMFRS Annual Delivery report/plan 2022-2023"	a. Carlos Meakin b. Ben Norman/ Sarah Scoales			"TravelSafe Annual Update Report" To include transport safety - full year	Kate Green or Lucy Kennon from TFGM and CS Mark Dexter / Supt Julie Ellison
	Jeanette to invite following Panel	Induction presentation to new members??			road safety priorities report moved to Panel July	Deliberate Fire Setting	Billy Fenwick
		Work plan / forward look	Jeanette Staley/ Lisa Lees			GMFRS Evaluation Report	Sarah Scoales / Emma Dean
		Finance	speak to Steve			Neighbourhood Update	Chief Supt Collete Rose/ Richard McNamara
	for information	Decisions taken	Lisa Lees			B. DRAFT GMFRS Annual Delivery report/plan 2022-2023"	b. Ben Norman/ Sarah Scoales
new		GMFRS Efficiency & Productivity Plan 2023-24	Carlos Meakin / Andrea Heffernan				
Police and Crime Panel	Final report deadline - 13th July	Item	Lead officer	Police and Crime Steering	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer
24th July (230-430)	to go in September	Draft GMFRS Annual Delivery Report 22-23 - moved to Sept Replaced with Annual Assurance Statement	Ben Norman/ Sarah Scoales	7th September 2023			
		5 GMP Police uplift numbers - Broader workforce - recruitment and retention, diversity etc	R McNamara & Niall Haden-Pawson (GMP)	(previously 24/8 moved due to AL)		Tackling inequality in the implementation of the Police and Crime plan	Vicky Sugars
		6 GMP item - Performance	Richard McNamara			Fraud and Online Vulnerability	Vicky Sugars/ Matt Berry
removed		7 Finance	Steve Wilson/Rachel Rosewell			Restorative Justice - broader work programme	Alison Connelly/ Bethan Dearden
		8 DRAFT Deputy Mayor Annual Report 2022/23	Neil Evans			Domestic Abuse - update on GMP DA arrangements review and technology update	Carol Judge- Campbell/ DCS Michaela Kerr
		9 Police and crime plan - priority 1 report & Performance scorecard Year 2 update	Neil Evans			Water Safety Partnership update	Leon Parkes
		10 Road safety Initiatives	Vicky Sugars Michael Parker Peter Boulton			Right Person:Right Care	Anna Berry/Amanda Murray
		11 Gender Based Violence Delivery plan - year 2 update	Neil Evans			Overview of Explosives	(Jenni Seex/Leon Parkes to present, for information)

	for information	Decisions taken	Lisa Lees			GM violence reduction strategy	Iarissa Edwards
	late item	GMFRS - Atlas Project to be .	presented by Billy Fenwick			Mental Health Urgent Triage Model	Gary Flannagan, GMP MH commissioning lead
Police and Crime Panel	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer	Police and Crime Steering Group	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer
18 th September (1-3)		Police and crime plan - Priority 2, year 2 report	Neil Evans/ Damian Dallimore	19th Oct 23		overview of GM CTLP	CTPNW - Dave Wells
		GMFRS - Annual statement of Assurance - presented at July meeting	Ben Norman / Sarah Scoales			Out of Court Disposals	Neil/Bethan
		GMFRS - Annual Delivery Report 22-23 (following draft at July panel)	Ben Norman / Sarah Scoales			GMFRS Volunteering report	Wendy Richings
		GMP Plan on a Page update	Clare C to confirm			Prevention and Problem solving	GMP Emma Taylor
		HMICFRS update – including SCO, Homicide Prevention and PEEL –	Chief Supt Richard McNamara			Victim services commissioning - Multi-crime service	Alison Connelly
		Finance	Steve Wilson/ Rachel Rosewell				
		Deputy Mayor Annual report 2022/23	Neil Evans/ Damian Dallimore		6 month update requested from the Steering group in April 2023	RASSO	Alison Connelly/ GMP DCS Michaela Kerr
	For information	Decisions	Lisa Lees			Fire item in relation to Day crewing raised by Cllr Morrison - Kerry to advise	Sarah Scoales report in June
	follow up item from the March Panel meeting	GMP Vetting update report -			deferred from Sept	GMFRS Fire Cover Consultation Outcomes	Ben Norman / Sarah Scoales
Police and Crime Panel	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer	Police and Crime Steering Group	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer
20 th November (1-3)	10th Nov	Organised Crime Annual update and Forward look (Challenger, Modern Slavery and Trafficking)	Damian Dallimore/ Sian Payne	14th Dec 23		Prevention Initiatives Report	Billy Fenwick
		Reducing Harm and Offending strategy - year 2 update - to include what support is available to those on Probation orders with MH	Alison Connelly/ Chris Edwards			GMFRS Draft Annual Delivery Plan 24-25	Sarah Scoales

		Joint report - Tackling Hate Crime, Backward and Forward Look	Samantha Stabler/CS Stephanie Parker/Dave Byrne			ADP 24-25 - Draft Improvement Programme	Sarah Scoales
		Finance - Precept process	Steve Wilson	new	moved from June & Oct	Drugs and Alcohol Delivery plan and progress update	Mark Knight
		Police and crime plan - Priority 3, year 2 progress report	Neil Evans/Damian Dallimore		moved from Sept at GMP request	Blue Light Collaboration	Joint Fire and Police
	Lee to follow up	GMFRS -arena enquiry response			deferred from Sept	Princes Trust	Billy Fenwick
	Lee to follow up	GMP local policing update			moved from Oct	Tackling Retail Crime	Cara Charlesworth and Martin
		GMFRS Fire Cover Consultation Outcomes	Ben Norman / Sarah Scoales				
	for information	Decisions	Lisa Lees				
		forward look					
Police and Crime Panel	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer	Police and Crime Steering Group	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer
30 th January (1-3) 2024	22nd Jan	Precept proposal report	Steve Wilson	8/2/23	29th Jan 2024	GMFRS Draft Annual Delivery Plan 24-25	Sarah Scoales
		Fire Budget	Steve Wilson		email Cllr Lancaster	Fire Commission - emerging energy technologies	Ben Norman & Phil Clarke
		GMFRS Mid-Year Performance Report April - Oct 23	Sarah Scoales			Taxi licensing report	Danielle Doyle (GM Taxi Licensing Manager - Chair of GM)
		GMP item - Force Performance update	Nicola Spragg		email JS, Cllr Morrison	Court Backlogs	Alison Connelly
	For information	Decisions item	Lisa Lees			"TravelSafe Annual Report" To include transport safety - and Op AVRO	Kate Green or Lucy Kennon from TfGM and CS Mark
					Strg group or Panel?	Draft Vision Zero Strategy	Peter Boulton - TfGM
						Safer Roads Partnership	Peter Boulton - TfGM
21 st March (1-3) 2024	13th March	Annual report - feedback from GM Members sitting on LGA fire commission		25/4/24	Suggested dates - all Thursdays 2-4		
		Right Care Right Person	ACC McFarlane/Emma Taylor (Anna Berry Co-ordinating report)		moved from Oct	Maturity Assessment of IPBW	Carlos Meakin/ Mike Clarke

						Blue Light Collaboration	Simon Woods (GMFRS)
		Baird Inquiry report	Vicky Sugars			Draft Forward Plan for panel and Steering group	

New Municipal Year

Police and Crime Panel	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer	Police and Crime Steering Group	Final report deadline	Item	Lead officer
14th May 2024		Deputy Mayor Appointment		27/6/24			
12/6/24, 2.00				15/8/24			
25.7.24 2.00				17/10/24			
18.9.24, 2.00				12/12/24			
20.11.24, 2.00				13/2/25			
29.1.25, 2.00				3/4/25			
19.3.24, 2.00							

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL

Date: 30th January 2024

Subject: Deputy Mayor Decision Notices in the period October 2023 – January 2024

Report of: Kate Green – Deputy Mayor for Police, Crime, Criminal Justice services and
Fire

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to highlight decisions made by the Deputy Mayor in the period from October 2023 – January 2024.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Panel is requested to note the decisions made and whether any further information is requested in relation to decisions made.

CONTACT OFFICER:

Neil Evans

Director – Police, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire

neil.evans@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Under Section 28(6) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the Panel is obliged to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Deputy Mayor in connection with the discharge of the police and crime functions and, where necessary make reports or recommendations to the Deputy Mayor with respect to the discharge of those functions.

1.2 The Deputy Mayor is under a statutory obligation under the terms of the Specified Information Order to publish details of decisions of significant public interest. In more general terms under Section 13 of the 2011 Act, the Deputy Mayor is obliged to ensure that she provides the Panel with any information that it might reasonably require to allow it to carry out its functions. This would include the provision of information regarding decisions and actions, irrespective of whether they were to be of “significant public interest”.

1.3 In this respect, the GMCA publishes decisions made.

2.0 DECISIONS MADE IN THE PERIOD OCTOBER 2023 to JANUARY 2024.

2.1 Drawing on the information published on the GMCA website, a number of decisions have been made in the period October 2023 – January 2024.

2.2 Decisions made are set out below:

12 th Oct 2023	GMCA Complex Safeguarding pays £1,020 from the Complex Safeguarding Budget (Deputy Mayor Investment Fund) to pay for CEO of Research in Practice Dez Holmes' input to senior leaders at a Transitional Safeguarding half-day event held on November 27 th .	PCC
1 st Nov 2023	Baird Enquiry: Funding of £1,500 is provided to pay for academic desk top research on how the police complaints system works, to inform the work being undertaken by Dame Vera Baird KC as part of the independent inquiry into the treatment of women and girls in police custody.	PCC
1 st Nov 2023	Transitional Safeguarding event - Programme Challenger pays £1,400 to the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce for venue and catering costs for the GM Complex Safeguarding Hub's input to senior leaders at a Transitional Safeguarding half-day event to be held on 27 November 2023.	PCC
1 st Nov 2023	Conference Attendance - Police, Fire and Crime Assistant Director will attend the LGA Annual Fire Conference and Exhibition in Bristol on March 12 & 13 th 2024, at a cost of £395 plus VAT.	PCC
9 th Nov 2023	Funding amounting to £20,000 is allocated to conduct a Request for Quotation process amongst existing members of the Greater	PCC

	Manchester Anti-Slavery Forum to commission on organisation to coordinate the forum for a total of 24 months.	
9 th Nov 2023	The GM victims service website, hosting fees are renewed from 1st April 2023 until March 30th 2024. Commissioned to Silverchip at a cost of £2,200.	PCC
9 th Nov 2023	Venue hire - £1159 is paid to the Mechanics Centre Limited to cover venue and catering costs for the Deputy Mayor's Community Safety Event, held on 1st November 2023.	PCC
16 th Nov 2023	<p>VRU is approved to carry out a commercial services-led tender exercise, to the value of £48,000, seeking a provider with experience in working with children (up to the age of 25) and their families affected by parental imprisonment to develop a programme that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a specialist bespoke support/sign posting service for children and families following a parental/carer imprisonment. • Develops a range of referral pathway via Criminal Justice Service, Education, Children Services and other statutory, community and voluntary sector services. • Achieve learning to enable understanding of gaps, demand and need of services for children impacted by parental imprisonment in Greater Manchester. <p>Works in collaboration with experts by experience to develop self-sustaining support networks and initiatives for children and families impacted by parental imprisonment and develop a</p>	PCC

	resource pack of support services available for children and their families affected by parental imprisonment.	
16 th Nov 2023	<p>Venue hire and catering - The Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit are seeking to make the following payment for a VRU hosted event:</p> <p>Partyline Catering - A payment to be made of £377.00 to cater for the launch event for the Greater Than Violence strategy on 12th December, hosted by the Mayor & Deputy Mayor.</p>	PCC
17 th Nov 2023	<p>Psychologist for the GM Resilience Hub Trusted Relationships programme covering the delivery period 2023/24.</p> <p>GMCA to pay £152,000 to Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust as part of a contract between GMCA & Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust.</p>	PCC
17 th Nov 2023	<p>GMIRS - The existing ETE contract is varied by £56,360.04 to allow Career Connect to provide additional Specialist Case Management Service. This is a fully funded contribution to the contract from HMPPS.</p>	PCC
22 nd Nov 2023	<p>GMCA and GMPS contributes £72,750 to GMFRS to fund the Atlas Project which is an intervention that has been developed by GMFRS Prevention Education Lead and Prevention Watch Manager, in collaboration with Greater Manchester Probation Service (GMPS).</p> <p>GMCA: £40,000</p>	PCC

	GMPS: £32,750	
23 rd Nov 2023	Programme Challenger Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking independent review. The University of Manchester is awarded £49,880 to undertake an independent review of the partnership response to Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT) in Greater Manchester, including the development of meaningful and achievable recommendations. The work will be completed by July 2024.	PCC
23 rd Nov 2023	Programme Challenger Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT) comms and messaging. Funding amounting to £1,348.50 is allocated to translate modern slavery campaign assets into relevant target languages and update the website to ensure the assets are accessible and continue to meet the needs of Programme Challenger in raising awareness of modern slavery across Greater Manchester.	PCC
23 rd Nov 2023	Provision of x 9 Access Logins plus x 1 Quarterly Physical Copy of Journal of Gender Based Violence to be supplied by Bristol University Press from the VRU Education Budget line (2023-24) at a cost of £236.	PCC
23 rd Nov 2023	Travel and accommodation – VRU Victim Lead to attend Hope Hack Event on Wednesday 29th November 2023 at a cost of £85.20.	PCC

28 th Nov 2023	A1015 – Approval to award contract for Liquid Fuels through an AGMA collaboration with c£2.55m average spend per annum for the four year contract.	GMP														
29 th Nov 2023	<p>Dependency and Recovery (D&R) grants to adult community substance misuse service providers in Greater Manchester are extended to include the 12-months from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 and annual grant values are varied as below.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="368 779 1230 1176"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="368 779 657 835">Provider</th> <th data-bbox="657 779 1230 835">Allocation April 23 to March 24 (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 835 657 891">GMMH</td> <td data-bbox="657 835 1230 891">428,059</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 891 657 947">CGL</td> <td data-bbox="657 891 1230 947">372,865</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 947 657 1003">Turning Point</td> <td data-bbox="657 947 1230 1003">195,270</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1003 657 1059">Pennine Care</td> <td data-bbox="657 1003 1230 1059">80,043</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1059 657 1115">We Are With You</td> <td data-bbox="657 1059 1230 1115">148,412</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1115 657 1176">Total</td> <td data-bbox="657 1115 1230 1176">1,224,649</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Provider	Allocation April 23 to March 24 (£)	GMMH	428,059	CGL	372,865	Turning Point	195,270	Pennine Care	80,043	We Are With You	148,412	Total	1,224,649	PCC
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29 th Nov 2023	<p>The Deputy Mayor agrees to contribute £83,000 over 2.5 years to co-fund an extension of BeeWell for a further two surveys (2024 and 2025) with GM NHS Integrated Care.</p> <p>The total cost per annum is £200,000 which will be paid by the Public Service Reform (PSR) Team (GMCA) who will ensure an appropriate legal agreement is in place with the BeeWell programme to govern this funding.</p>	PCC														
29 th Nov 2023	A1008 Mobile Tech Refresh - Approval is given to tender the contract for the supply of circa 10,300 (nr) Motorola ThinkPhones and 200nr Nokia105 non-smart mobile phones using the Crown Commercial Services Technology Products and Associated	GMP														

	Services 2 (CCS TePAS2) framework. The estimated contract value is £3.8m.	
6 th Dec 2023	<p>Provision of consultant to facilitate four workshops that will form the basis of the implementation plan for the Greater Than Violence Strategy. To be funded through the VRU at a cost of £6,591.00 from the VRU Comms 23/24 budget</p> <p>This will also include reviewing VRU governance to ensure it is fit for the future in order to deliver against the commitments of the Greater Than Violence strategy.</p>	PCC
6 th Dec 2023	<p>VRU Violence Interrupter - It has been identified that there is a need across Greater Manchester for a resource to work with individuals involved in serious violence and criminality who have exhausted all interventions and/or are still manifesting strong risk factors and behaviours in communities across Greater Manchester. In line with the work of the VRU, there will be a requirement for some early intervention, education and prevention work with young people across Greater Manchester.</p> <p>There is £49,999 available to fund this work for 12 months.</p>	PCC
6 th Dec 2023	<p>Development and support with the GM Ethics Committee - approval for payment of £2,197.20 for the services of Sattva Associates Limited for support to the Greater Manchester Police Ethics Committee on 21st September 2023. To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with GMCA Officers on a proposal for the Committee work • Preparation of the programme for the Ethics Committee 	PCC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitated workshop • Preparation of meeting report • Follow up session with Officers and Committee 	
6 th Dec 2023	<p>Funding of £33,510 is allocated to GMP to raise awareness of online reporting, livechat, and advice available at www.gmp.police.uk over a sustained long-term period of time to improve the use of online services and encourage the public to 'channel shift'.</p> <p>The campaign is to run over 19 weeks from early November 2023 to Mid-March 2024.</p>	PCC
7 th Dec 2023	<p>SafeLives – GM GBV Board – authentic voice work</p> <p>SafeLives are provided with the following funding to support the delivery and implementation of the GM Gender Based Violence Strategy:</p> <p>£22,875 - Bring UK wide insight to develop and support an embedded Authentic Voice culture within the GMCA GBV Strategic Board.</p>	PCC
12 th Dec 2023	<p>The Greater Manchester Restorative Justice service is part funded through the victim's services grant and the re-commissioning of the service has been brought in line with the re-commissioning of the victim services.</p>	PCC

	<p>However, whilst working closely with GMP on the development of the specification for the Restorative Justice service, it became apparent that there needed to be a stronger emphasis on the importance of collaboration and partnerships delivered through a range of strategies and plans, including the commitment to the National Police Chief's Council recommended national Two Tier plus Framework for Out of Court Disposals (OoCDs) for adult offenders. New legislation is being reviewed to deliver this within the Police, Crime and Sentencing Courts Bill.</p> <p>This legislation was due to be implemented in Spring 2023, however, due to some delays this is now expected in early 2024. This provides further time to explore additional opportunities and options to commission a service which will deliver not only high quality Restorative Justice interventions, but will also seek to develop a suite of interventions for low level and first time offenders as part of the out of courts disposal framework, - providing diversionary interventions to help change behaviours and divert offenders away from crime. we need to further extend the contract with Remedi, to ensure there is no break in the service.</p> <p>Total Value - £247, 059</p>	
13 th Dec 2023	<p>Update to existing decision - A decision for the VRU team staffing budget for 2023-24 has previously been approved and in year adjustments have been approved:</p> <p>The funding allocated to the function of Youth Justice Lead has now been split as set out below and the provider has moved from Positive Steps (Oldham) to Tameside and Wigan Councils:</p>	PCC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New YJ Operational Lead (0.2 FTE) - to be provided by Tameside Council • YJ Strategic Lead (0.1 FTE) – Wigan Council <p>There is no change to the amount of funding as per the original decision.</p>	
14 th Dec 2023	GM Victim Service Website: Website and Service Directory changes - GMVS web developer Silverchip Ltd to implement essential updates to the GM Victims website to reflect the new GM Victims service provider. (Telephone and Wording) £476.00 Service Directory Changes £357.00. Total £833.00 plus VAT	PCC
14 th Dec 2023	Travel for VRU Victims Lead December 2023 - The Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit are seeking to make the following payment covering travel & accommodation for a Hope Hack Event on Monday 11 th December 2023 at a total cost of £267.65 to cover travel and accommodation.	PCC
14 th Dec 2023	Venue hire and catering – Chambers of Commerce VRU Violence Reduction Strategy – development of an implementation plan. For 65 people at a cost of £1437.50. To include full support and catering.	PCC
14 th Dec 2023	Independent Custody Visitors - Volunteers Christmas lunch (December 23)	PCC

	In recognition of the support the ICV volunteers provide to the statutory ICV scheme. A food only contribution was made to a Christmas lunch at a cost of £345.	
14 th Dec 2023	Venue hire and catering - GM Dependency & Recovery / Health & Justice Networking Event To allocate £1,641.20 for an event focussing on dependency & recovery and health & justice, hosted in partnership with GM probation services at The Life Centre in Sale.	PCC
14 th Dec 2023	Programme Challenger Anti-Slavery NGO Forum Coordination 2024 and 2025 Funding totalling £19,936.21 will be provided to Causeway Charitable Services to coordinate the Greater Manchester Anti-Slavery Forum for 24 months (January 2024 – December 2025) following a request for quote process conducted via the Forum membership.	PCC
21 st Dec 2023	Youth Endowment Fund Another Chance programme – Comms Materials: Approval to invite quotations for delivery of a commission, via the PCC's YEF Delivery Phase funding, to enable the co-design of the development of the Another Chance welcome pack and development of social media content and paid advertisements up to a maximum value of £15,000. This contract is intended to run parallel to the PCC's Focused Deterrence programme, and thus	PCC

	will go live from the point of the contract being awarded through to an end date of April 2024.	
21 st Dec 2023	<p>Youth Endowment Fund- Another Chance Codesign in the Community: Contract Award to Big Life Group</p> <p>Following an Expression of Interest procurement process, the GM VRU within GMCA to award £20,000 to the Big Life Group (via the PC's YEF Deliver Phase funding) to enable the co-design of the communications, messaging and materials for the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) Another Chance programme.</p> <p>The contract is intended to go live in December 2023 running until April 2024.</p>	PCC
21 st Dec 2023	<p>Printing and production of the Rochdale CSE Report</p> <p>£2000 is made available to pay Browns Print for the printing and production of 100 copies of the Rochdale CSE Report</p>	PCC
3 rd Jan 2024	<p>A0957 Purchase of Radio Terminals - Approval is given to purchase circa 5,100 of Radio Terminals at a cost of £3.3 million and auditing software at a cost of £250K, through the existing A0957 Radio Terminals contract. This is due to on-going delays to ESN where GMP have deferred a refresh.</p>	GMP
3 rd Jan 2024	<p>A0958 Conducted Energy Devices (TASER)</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor approves the award of a 2-year contract for conducted energy devices (TASER), to Axon Public Safety with the option to extend for a further 2 years. The likely value of 4 years spend would be circa £3.6 million.</p>	GMP

<p>3rd Jan 2024</p>	<p>Home Office – Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) By-and For Funding for a Consortium Hub model</p> <p>The GMCA is awards £681,300 over 2 years to 6 organisations to deliver the Consortium HUB model. This will provide services for Black, Asian and other minoritised women and girls across Greater Manchester, including migrant women with no recourse to public funds (NRPF).</p> <p>Year 1 2023-24</p> <table data-bbox="363 853 1117 1220"> <tr> <td>Safety4Sisters</td> <td>£71,905.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NESTAC</td> <td>£74,305.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Olive Pathway</td> <td>£53,305.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saheli</td> <td>£35,805.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rochdale Women’s Welfare Association</td> <td>£49,180.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GM IAU</td> <td>£40,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£324,500</td> </tr> </table> <p>Year 2 2024-25</p> <p>To be paid to each organisation in accordance with the percentage breakdown for year 1.</p> <p>Total £356,800.00</p>	Safety4Sisters	£71,905.00	NESTAC	£74,305.00	Olive Pathway	£53,305.00	Saheli	£35,805.00	Rochdale Women’s Welfare Association	£49,180.00	GM IAU	£40,000.00	Total	£324,500	<p>PCC</p>
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<p>4th Jan 2024</p>	<p>University of Huddersfield PhD programme</p> <p>An investment of £25,000 from the team’s core budget is made into funding a subsidised PhD programme for two of its current members of staff as part of our commitment to personal growth and development.</p>	<p>PCC</p>														

9 th Jan 2024	<p>Agreement relating to International Policing Assistance Service (IPAS) run by the Home Office</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor authorises the entering into of the Agreement with the Secretary of State for the Home Department</p> <p>The purpose of this Agreement is to set out the Framework for the provision of serving officers and specialist courses by GMP</p>	PCC
9 th Jan 2024	<p>Airport Police Services Agreement: Manchester Airport PLC pursuant to Section 24 AE (1) and Section 25B of the Aviation Security Act 1982</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor authorises the entering into of the Airport Police Services Agreement with Manchester Airport PLC pursuant to Section 24 AE (1) and Section 25B of the Aviation Security Act 1982</p>	PCC
9 th Jan 2024	<p>Collaboration Agreement Pursuant to Section 22A of the Police Act 1996 (as amended)</p> <p>Relating to: North West Chronicle Collaboration</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor authorises the entering into of the above S.22A agreement, for North West Chronicle Collaboration the purpose of which is to provide centralised expert support for all the Parties Chronicle modules.</p>	PCC
9 th Jan 2024	<p>VRU Grant Funding to Bolton CVS 2023-24 & 2024-25 for Violence Reduction Alliance Facilitators & VRU VCSE Strategic Lead</p>	PCC

	<p>The GM VRU are seeking to award to Bolton Community Voluntary Sector (CVS) £750,000 (£375,000 in financial year 2023-24 and a further £375,000 in financial year 2024-25) by way of Grant funding, to support in the delivery and administration of the VRU's Community-Led Pilots Programme on behalf of 10 GM. This further investment in the GM Community-led Programme will fund the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £300,000 (£30,000 each CLP area in each financial year) in capacity building funding to enable local areas to fund their Violence Reduction Alliance Facilitator within the VCSE sector, who will support the VCSE Coordinator in the roll out, administration, and sustainability of the Community-led programmes in all 10 boroughs of GM. • £75,000 per year to continue funding the VCSE Sector Strategic Lead who will continue to work with Public Sector and VCSE sector partners to deliver the programme and is based within the GM VRU. 	
9 th Jan 2024	<p>Procurement of Victims Gateway –Single Digital Platform with Victims User Portal, and Victims Services Website</p> <p>Following ITT exercise GMCA reference 864, to appoint provider UBDS IT Consulting Limited to develop / deliver a single digital platform with portal to track victims' journeys, allow self-referrals, and a victims services website.</p> <p>Work is to commence 27th November 2023 with a cost of £219,330.</p>	PCC

	Max duration of contract is 24 months - End: 27th November 2025 with option to extend for an additional year after this.																			
9 th Jan 2024	<p>A1035 – Viper</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor approves the award of a 7-year contract for VIPER Identification Booth to West Yorkshire Police. The likely value of 7 years spend would be circa £1,337,551.</p>	GMP																		
9 th Jan 2024	<p>GM Drug Related Deaths (DRD)</p> <p>The contract with Liverpool John Moores University for the provision of a Drug and Alcohol Related Deaths Monitoring System is extended for a period of 12-months to 31st August 2024.</p> <p>The value of the 12-month extension is £79,351, a 7% uplift compared to the previous year, reflecting increased costs to the provider. GMCA will commission this system on behalf of the 10 GM local authorities with the local authorities fully funding the system as set out below. Funding has been agreed via the GM Drug and Alcohol Commissioners Group.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="368 1350 962 1944"> <thead> <tr> <th>LA Name</th> <th>Cost to local authority</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bolton</td> <td>£8,047</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bury</td> <td>£5,344</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Manchester</td> <td>£15,470</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oldham</td> <td>£6,635</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rochdale</td> <td>£6,224</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Salford</td> <td>£7,243</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stockport</td> <td>£8,211</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tameside</td> <td>£6,338</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	LA Name	Cost to local authority	Bolton	£8,047	Bury	£5,344	Manchester	£15,470	Oldham	£6,635	Rochdale	£6,224	Salford	£7,243	Stockport	£8,211	Tameside	£6,338	PCC
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	Trafford	£6,642		
	Wigan	£9,197		
	Total	£79,351		

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS.

3.1 Appear at the front of the report